

Archie

ADVENTURE
SERIES

NO. 61
JULY

US \$1.75
CAN \$1.85

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

TM



DANGER IN DOWNUNDA!

SPAZO
SPAZO

SONIC & TAILS

in

OUTBACK GUT CHECK

LOOK, STU--
IT'S WALT, BARBY
AND THAT FAR OUT
FOX NAMED
TAILS! *

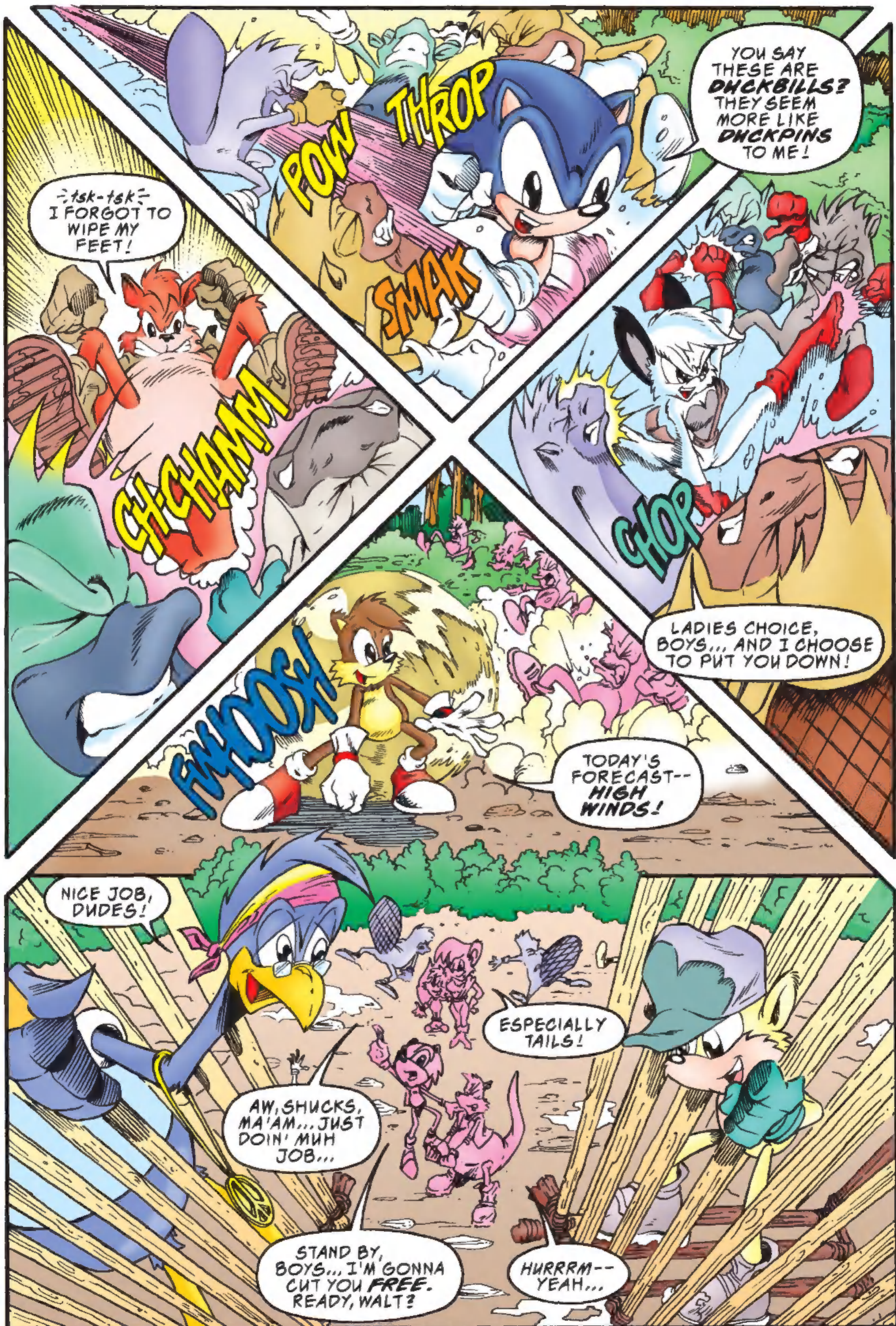
BUT HOW'D
THEY FIND US? AND
WHO'S THE SPINY
BLUE GUY?

THE NAME'S
SONIC THE HEDGE-
HOG... AND WE'LL
EXPLAIN EVERY-
THING AFTER WE
TRASH THESE
FLAT-TAILED
FREAKS!

ON MY
SIGNAL,
EVERYBODY
... **NOW!**

* The DFF first appeared
in the highly acclaimed
TAILS 3-ISSUE MINT-
SERIES -- EDITOR.

WRITER: MIKE GALLAGHER ARTIST: HARVO MERCADOOCASIO COLORIST: FRANK GAGUARDO LETTERER: JEFF POWELL EDITOR: J. FREDDY GABRIE MNG. EDITOR: VICTOR GORELICK EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: RICHARD GOLDWATER



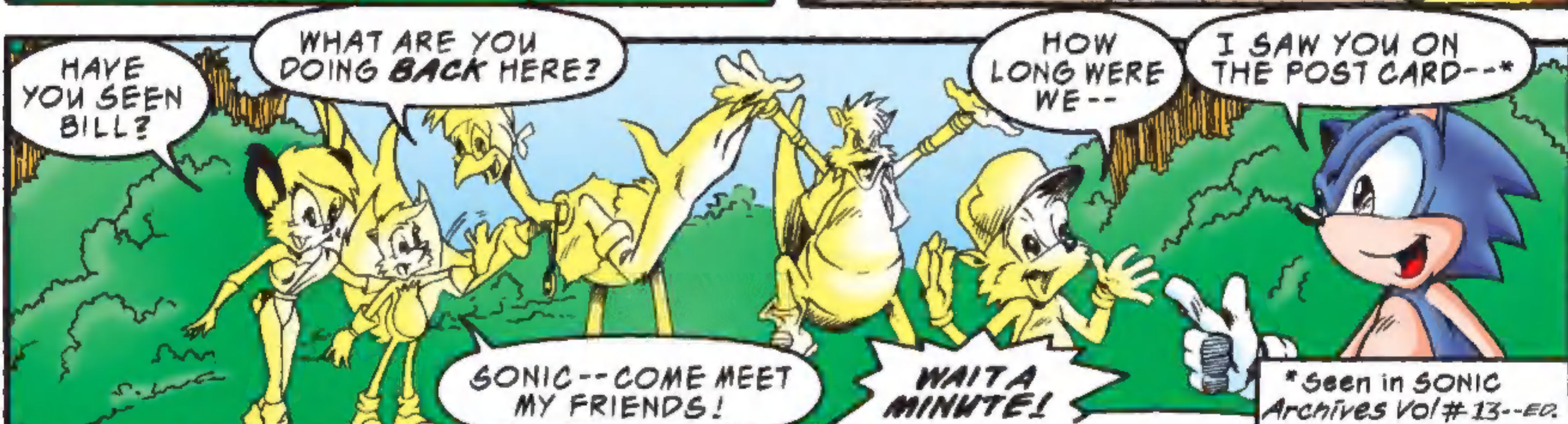


YOU'RE
FREE AS A
BIRD--ET
--AND A
WOMBAT!



FREE AT
LAST!

GOOD
TO SEE YOU
TWO!



HAVE
YOU SEEN
BILL?

WHAT ARE YOU
DOING **BACK** HERE?

HOW
LONG WERE
WE--

I SAW YOU ON
THE POST CARD--*

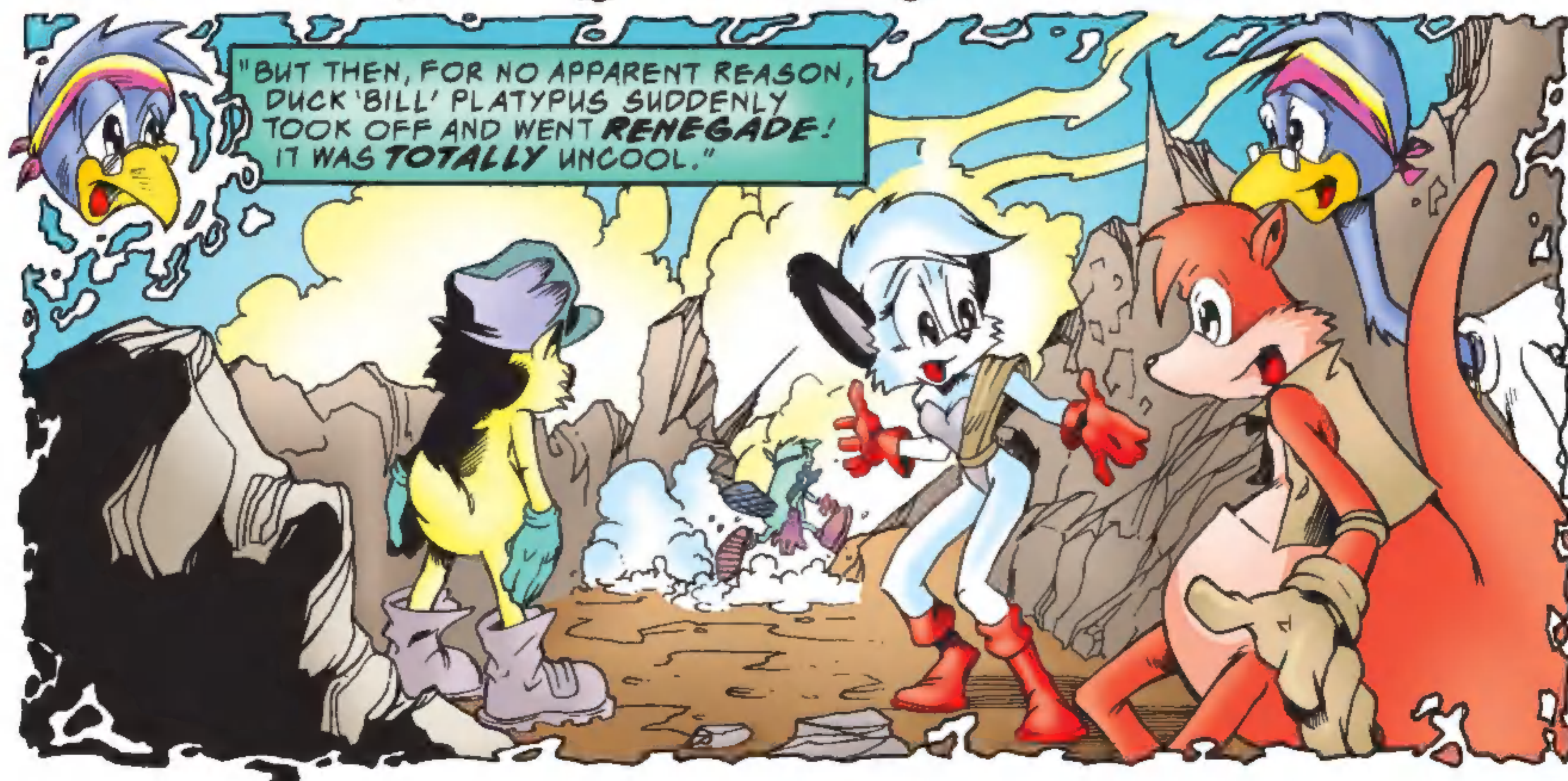
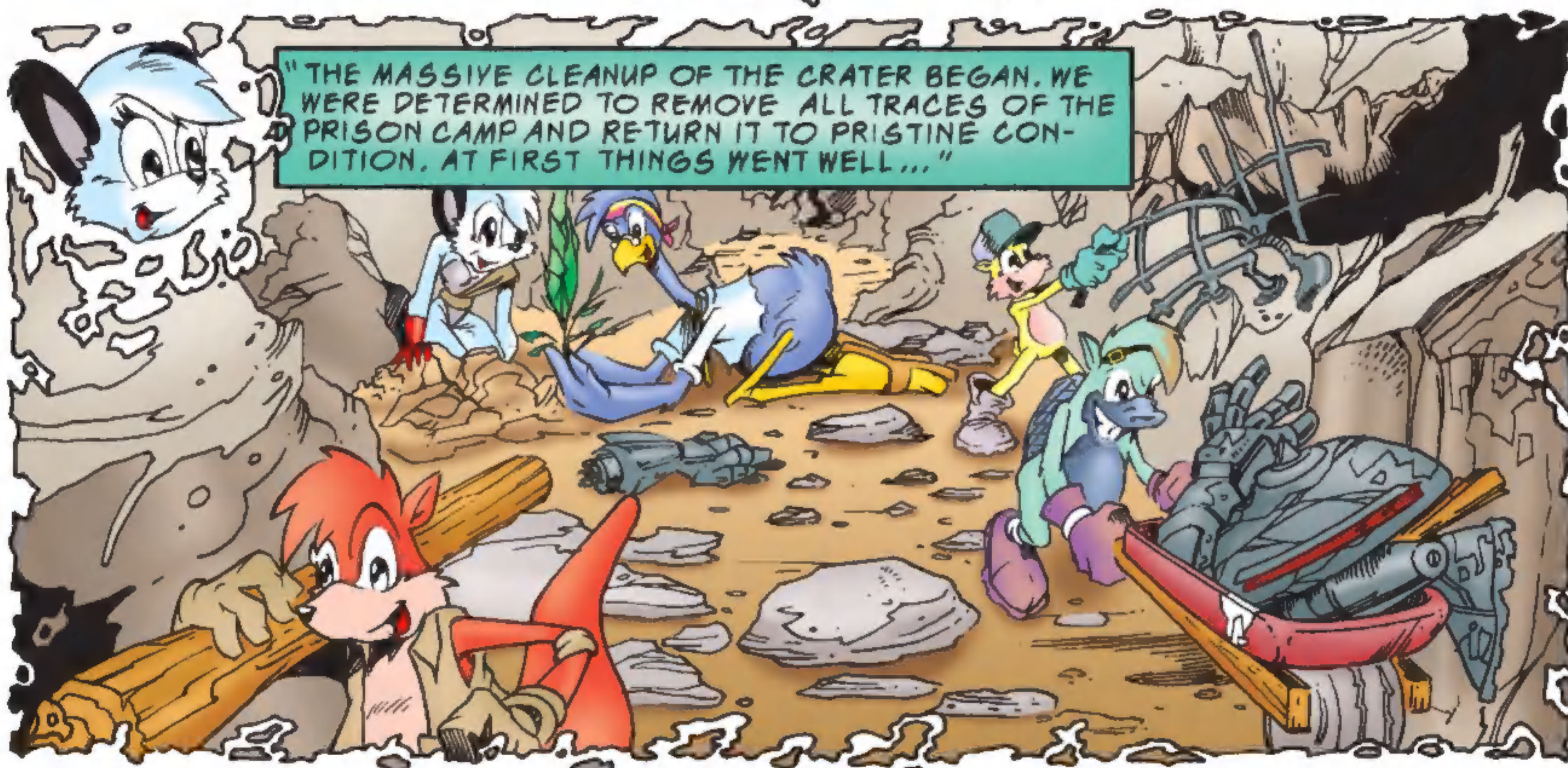
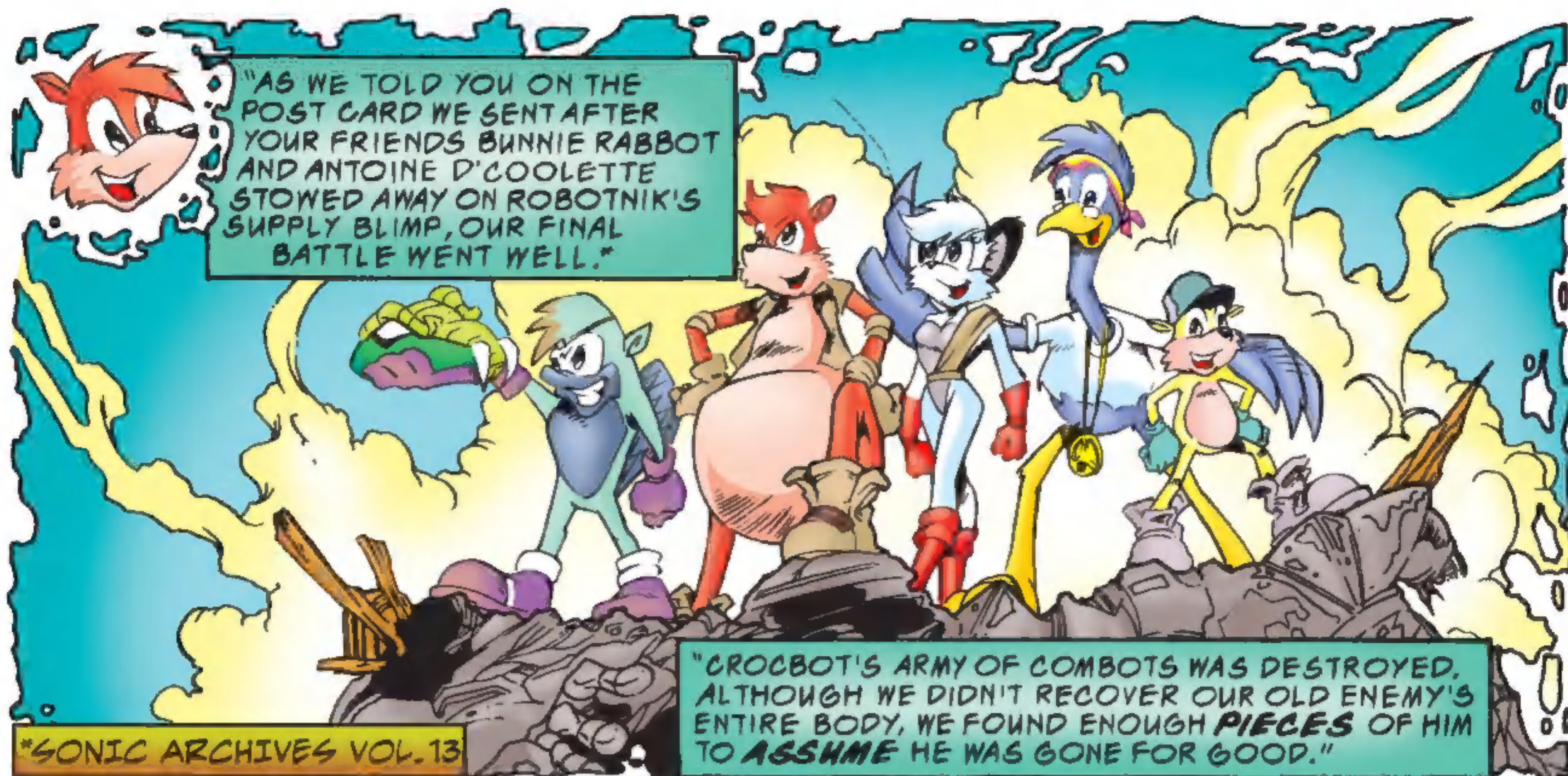
SONIC--COME MEET
MY FRIENDS!

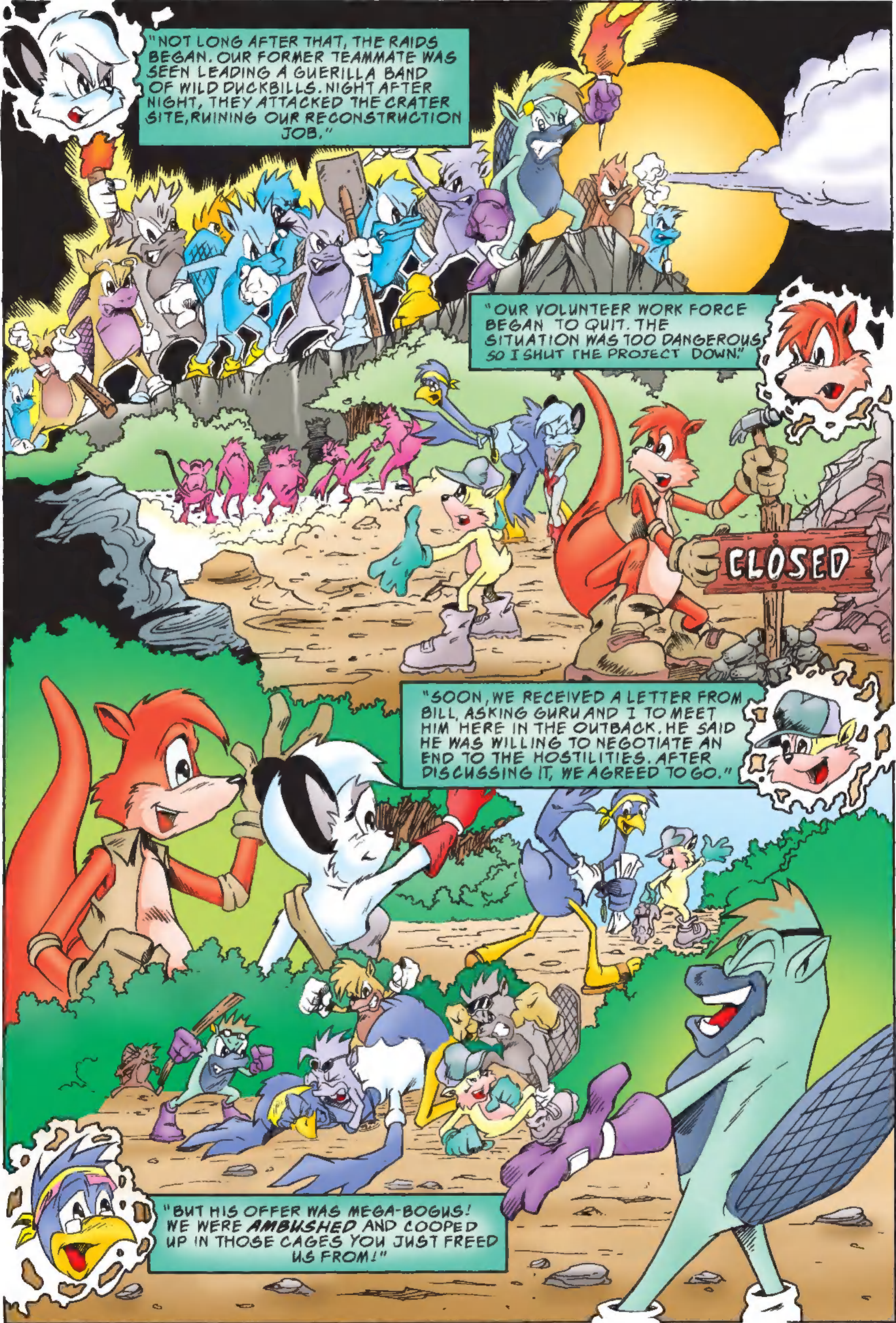
**WAIT A
MINUTE!**

* Seen in SONIC
Archives Vol #13--ED.



LET'S BRING EVERYBODY
UP TO SPEED BY STARTING AT
THE BEGINNING. THAT WOULD
BE RIGHT AFTER THE FINAL
COMBOT CLASH...



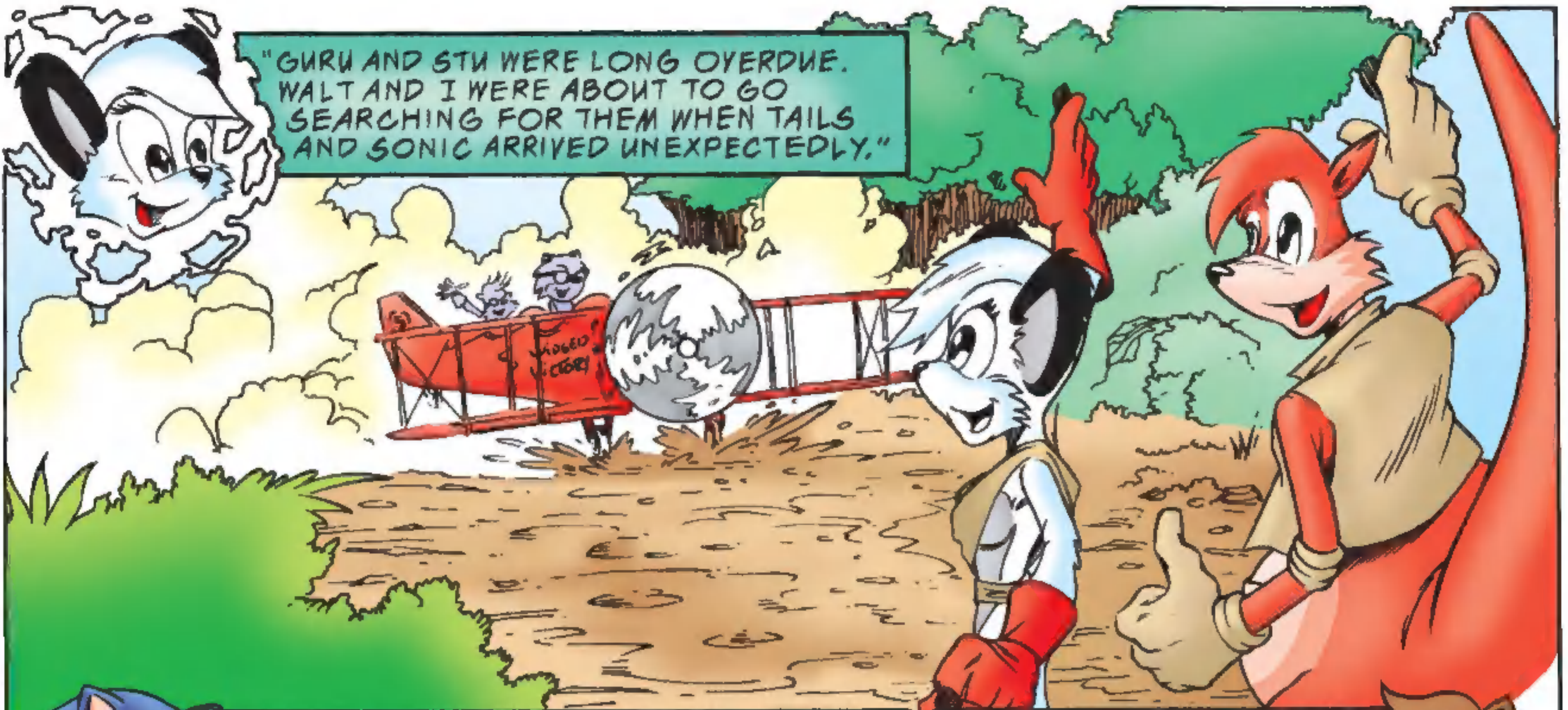


"NOT LONG AFTER THAT, THE RAIDS BEGAN. OUR FORMER TEAMMATE WAS SEEN LEADING A GUERRILLA BAND OF WILD DUCKBILLS. NIGHT AFTER NIGHT, THEY ATTACKED THE CRATER SITE, RUINING OUR RECONSTRUCTION JOB."

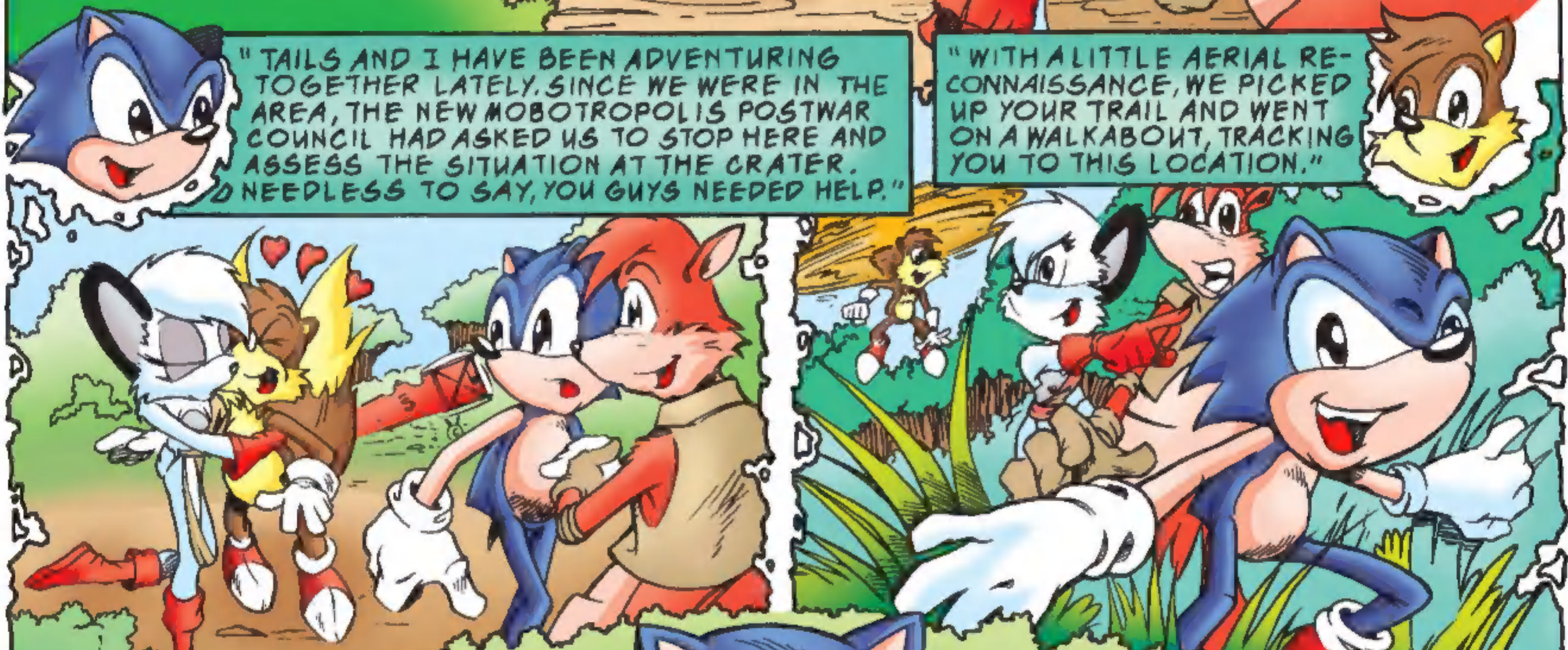
"OUR VOLUNTEER WORK FORCE BEGAN TO QUIT. THE SITUATION WAS TOO DANGEROUS, SO I SHUT THE PROJECT DOWN."

"SOON, WE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM BILL, ASKING GURU AND I TO MEET HIM HERE IN THE OUTBACK. HE SAID HE WAS WILLING TO NEGOTIATE AN END TO THE HOSTILITIES. AFTER DISCUSSING IT, WE AGREED TO GO."

"BUT HIS OFFER WAS MEGA-BOGUS! WE WERE *AMBUSHED* AND COOPED UP IN THOSE CAGES YOU JUST FREED US FROM!"



"GURU AND STU WERE LONG OVERDUE. WALT AND I WERE ABOUT TO GO SEARCHING FOR THEM WHEN TAILS AND SONIC ARRIVED UNEXPECTEDLY."



"TAILS AND I HAVE BEEN ADVENTURING TOGETHER LATELY. SINCE WE WERE IN THE AREA, THE NEW MOBOTROPOLIS POSTWAR COUNCIL HAD ASKED US TO STOP HERE AND ASSESS THE SITUATION AT THE CRATER. NEEDLESS TO SAY, YOU GUYS NEEDED HELP."

"WITH A LITTLE AERIAL RE-CONNAISSANCE, WE PICKED UP YOUR TRAIL AND WENT ON A WALKABOUT, TRACKING YOU TO THIS LOCATION."



LET'S SPLIT THIS SCENE AND FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH DUCK "BILL" PLATYPUS!

YOU BET ... COME ON, TAILS!

FOLLOW ME, FREEDOM FIGHTERS!

HEY, HEDGEHOG-- I GIVE THE ORDERS HERE IN DOWNUNDA... FOLLOW **ME**, FREEDOM FIGHTERS!



BE CAREFUL
OF THE HANGING
MOSS, TAILS!

HMF!

KEEP YOUR EYES
FRONT AND STAY ALERT,
WANNABEE!

THAT'S
"WALLABEE"
HEDGEHOG!

OKAY, MR.
WALLABEEHEDGEHOG
...GET YOUR MIND
RIGHT!

KNOCK IT
OFF YOU TWO...
AND HUSH! I
HEARD SOME-
THING!

I'LL LAND
SO MY WHIRRING
TAILS DON'T MAKE
ANY NOISE.

SHHH...
THEY'RE COMING
THIS WAY...



LOOK OUT, BARBY!

WHOA! THANKS, GURU!

YOU SLOW, GATOR BOY!

THWACK

CRASH

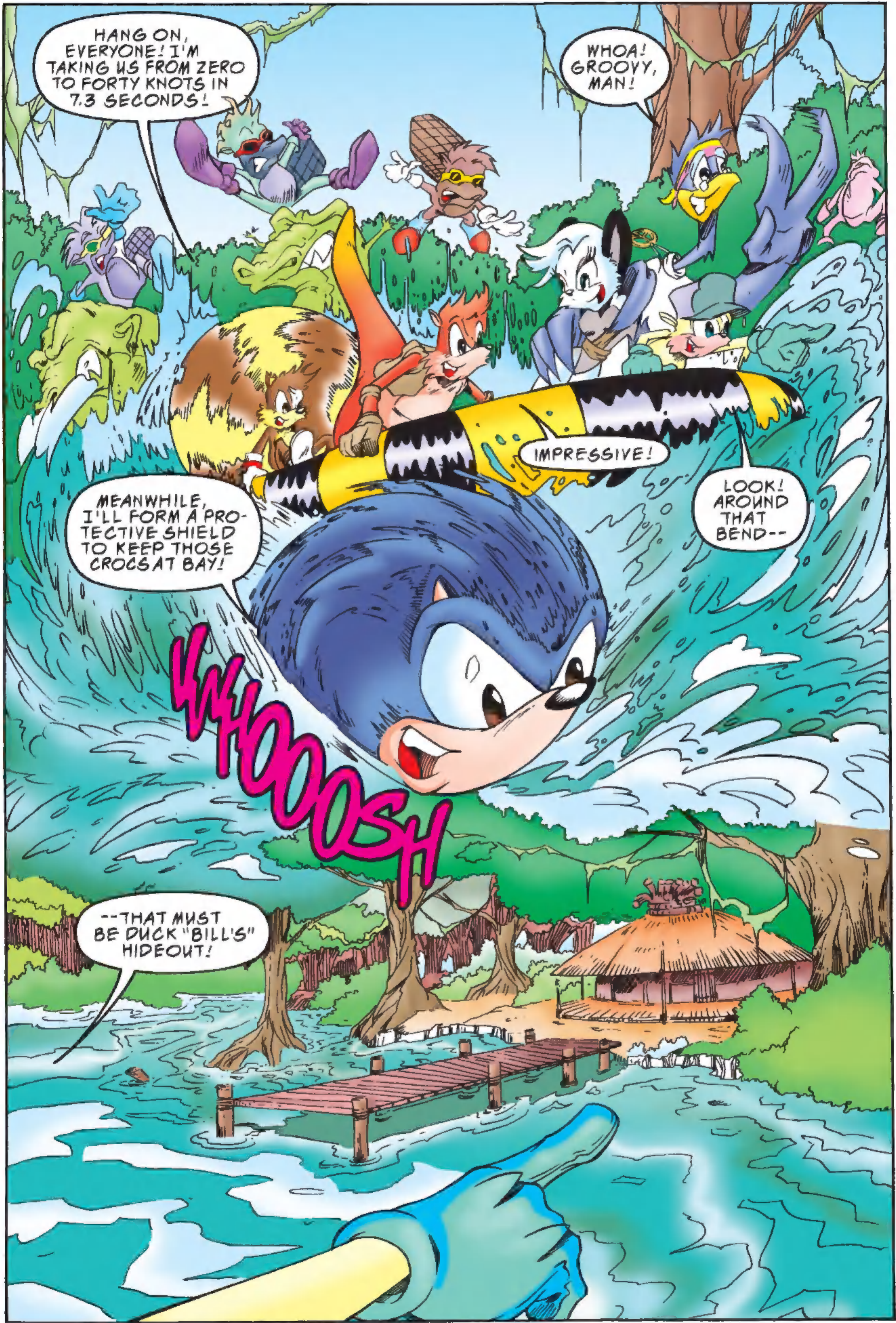
BOP

THIS IS WHERE YOU GET OFF, MAN!

WHOOOF!

LISTEN UP, LITTLE BUDDY-- YOU PROP WHILE I BUZZ THE PERIMETER!

GOTCHA, SONIC!

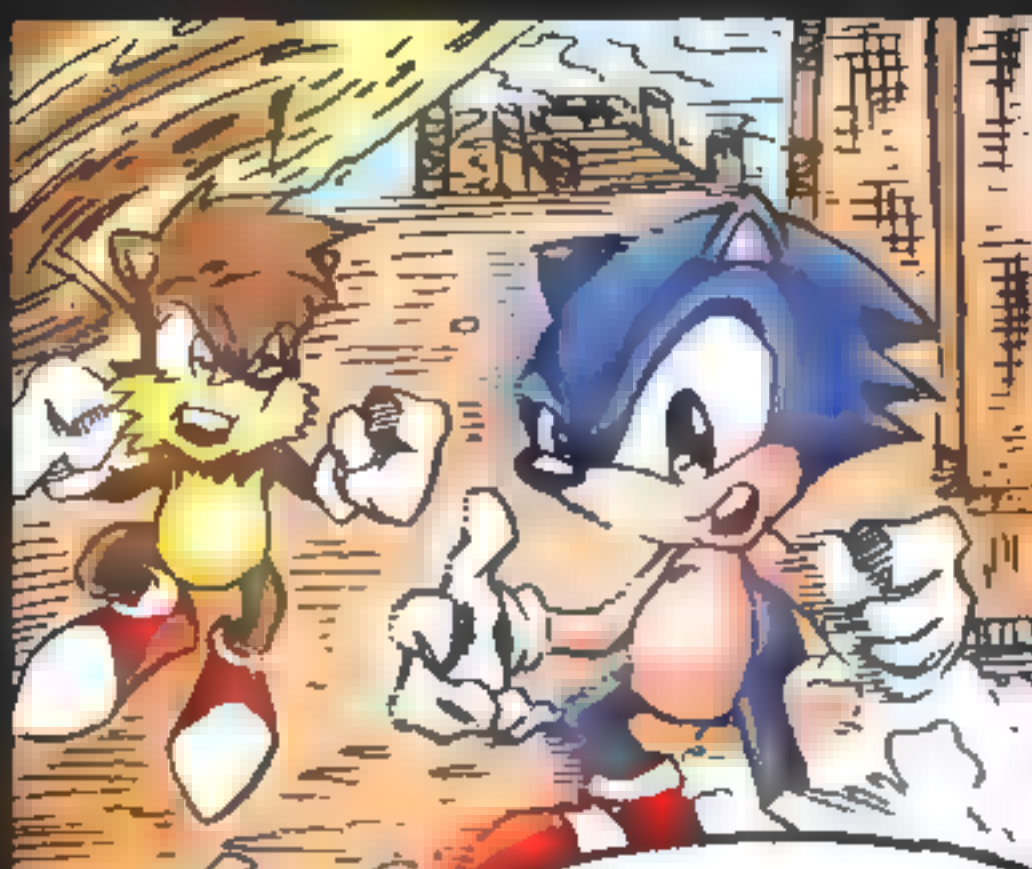


Of course there's no report from the hostage site! And what's with the croc patrol? They could be here any second! What should I do?

AND I CAN HEAR HIM... HE'S TALKING TO HIMSELF!

I CAN SEE HIM!

ON THREE, FREEDOM FIGHTERS... ONE--TWO--



THREE! SHOW'S OVER, BILLABONG!

OH, DEAR! HE LOOKS AWFUL!

Oh great! They're here! Now what do I do? ...Well? ...Answer me!

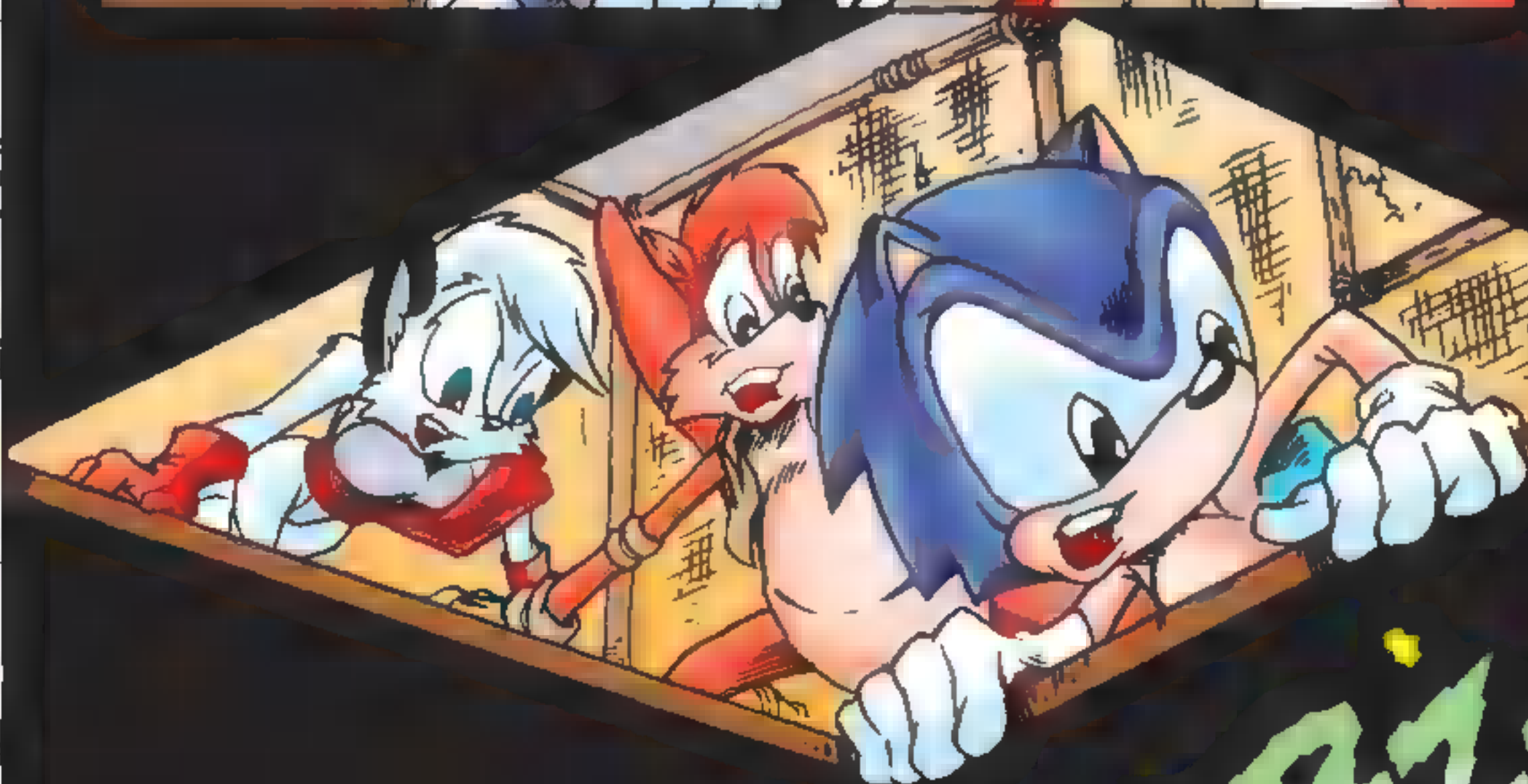
OH, MAN! BILL'S TOTALLY EXHAUSTED!

WHO WAS HE TALKING TO?

GNNNGH...

I CAN HEAR SOUNDS UNDER-NEATH THE FLOOR... MECHANICAL SOUNDS!

I SEE THE OUTLINE OF A TRAP DOOR-- STAND BACK, SISTER!



BZZZT
CRACKS

CROCBOT!

CURSE YOU
~DZZZZT~
FREEDOM
FIGHTERS...

~CRACKLE~ MY PLAN ALMOST
SUCCEEDED! WHILE I HAD YOU
DOWN IN DANKS IN THE CRATER
DETENTION CAMP, I IMPLANTED
A POST-HYPNOTIC MIND CONTROL
DIODE BEHIND DUCK "BILL'S" EAR.

WHEN HE FOUND MY REMAINS
DURING THE CLEAN UP, THE VISUAL
STIMULI INITIATED THE PRO-
GRAMMING CHIP IN HIS HEAD.
THAT'S WHY HE FLED FROM YOU.
HIS MIND NOW BELONGED TO
~HMMMM~ ME!

BILL'S FIRST TASK WAS TO
CONNECT ME TO A POWER SOURCE
SO I COULD INSTRUCT HIM. I
THEN ORDERED HIM TO RAISE A
DUCKBILL ARMY AND SEIZE THE
CRATER SITE. ~VRAAP~ AS YOU
KNOW, HE SUCCEEDED!

NEXT, THEY WOULD SALVAGE COMBOT PARTS
FROM THE SITE. I WOULD REASSEMBLE ONE
AND HAVE IT REBUILD ME. ~BZZZZZZT~ SOON,
I WOULD RISE TO POWER AGAIN AND HAVE
MY REVENGE ON ALL OF YOU!

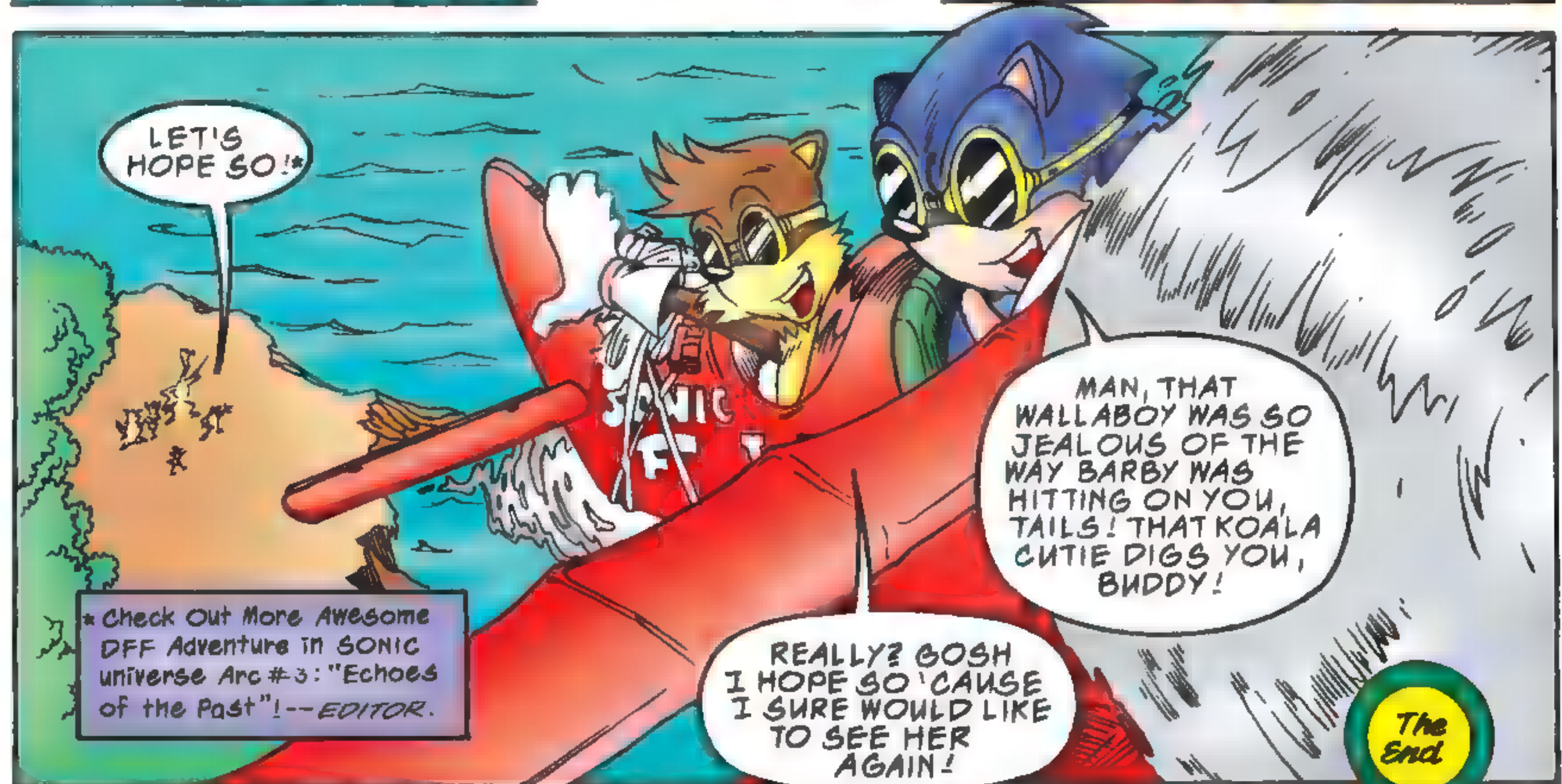
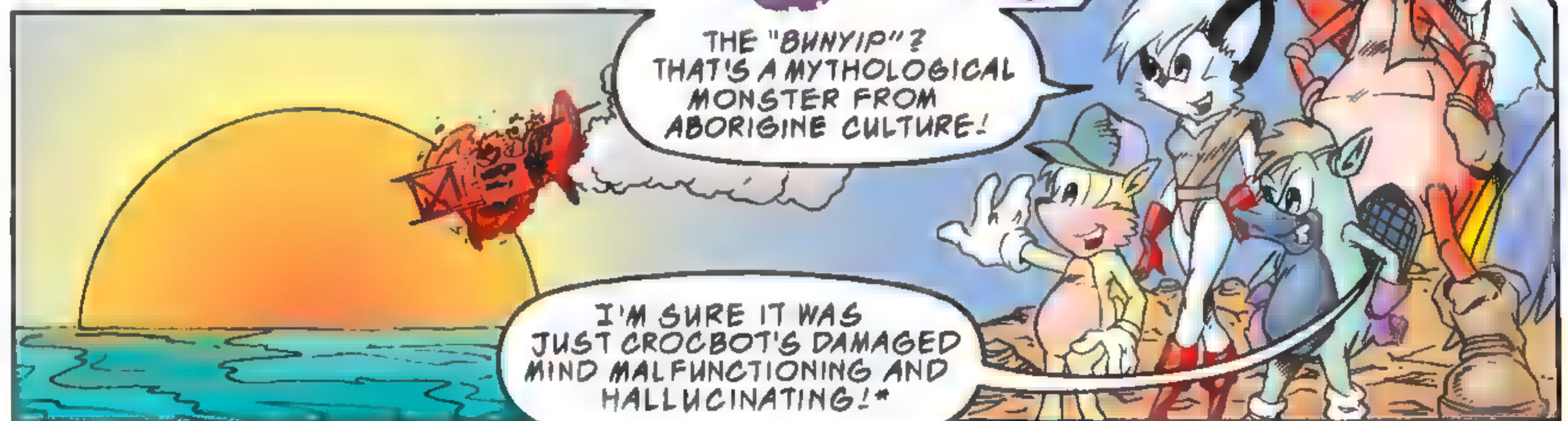
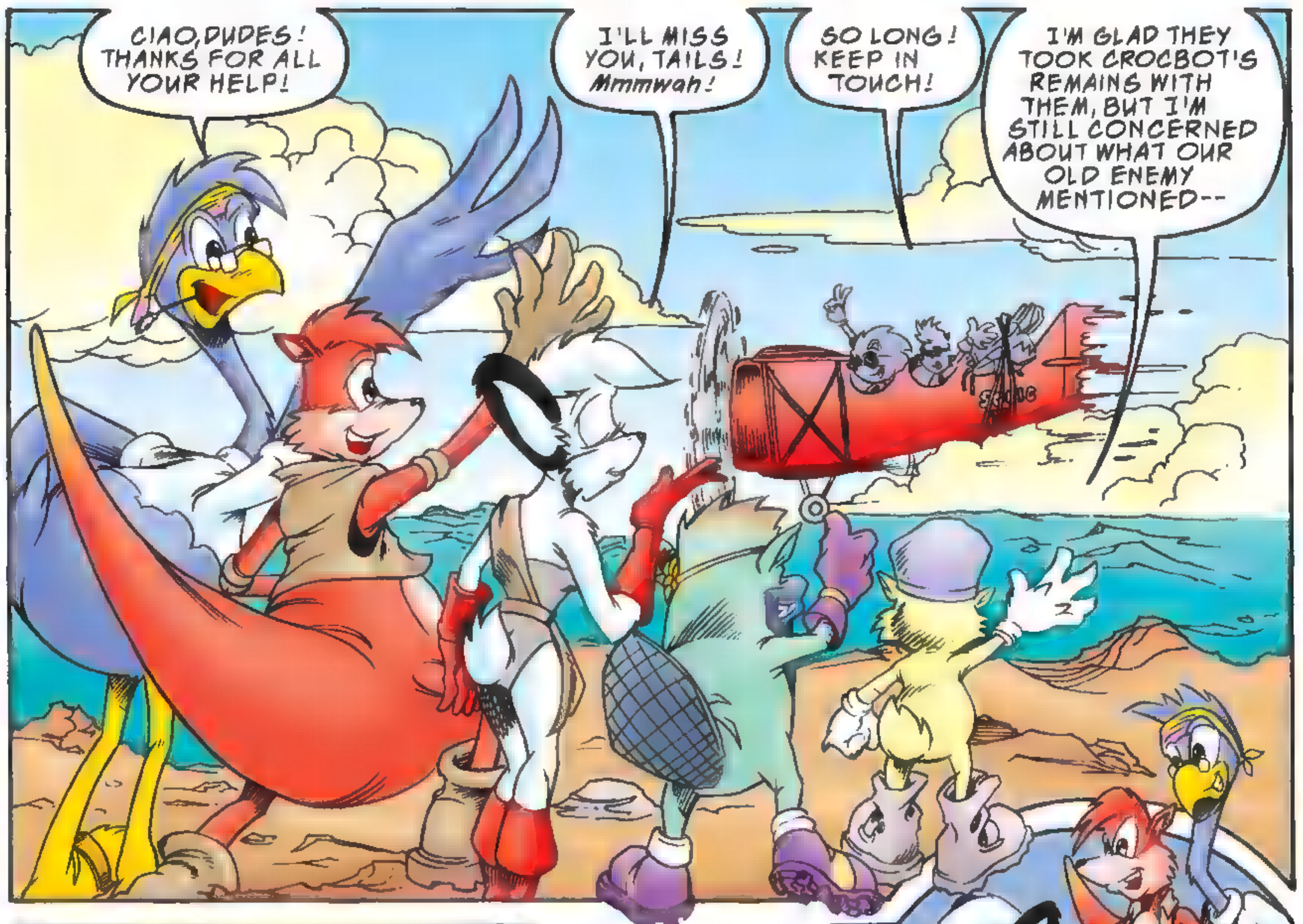
BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER ANY-
WAY--~KSSSSSSSH~ FOR WHEN
THE **BUNYIP** ARRIV--~blip~

HEY, THAT'S
MY DECISION
TO MAKE!

AFRAID NOT
MARSH-PAL!

I HAVE AUTHORIZATION
FROM **KING ACORN** HIMSELF
TO DISCONNECT AND CONFIS-
CATE ANY AND ALL HOSTILE
MECHANICAL DEVICES.

WE DEFER TO
THE KING. TAKE
CROCBOT AWAY
--AND GOOD
RIDDANCE!



* Check Out More Awesome DFF Adventure in SONIC universe Arc #3: "Echoes of the Past"! -- EDITOR.

The End



PIN-UP COLORING FUN BROUGHT TO YOU BY HARVEY "HARVO" MERCADOOCASIO!

SONIC & TAILS

I'M SURE GLAD
WE'RE NOT CHASING
THE EVIL WIZARD
IXIS NAUGHS AROUND
THE PLANET BY BOAT,
SONIC! THIS OCEAN
LOOKS REAL ROUGH
IF YOU ASK ME!

DON'T WORRY
ABOUT THE WAVES,
TAILS! IN TWO
SECONDS WE MIGHT
REGRET TAKIN' MY
BI-PLANE!

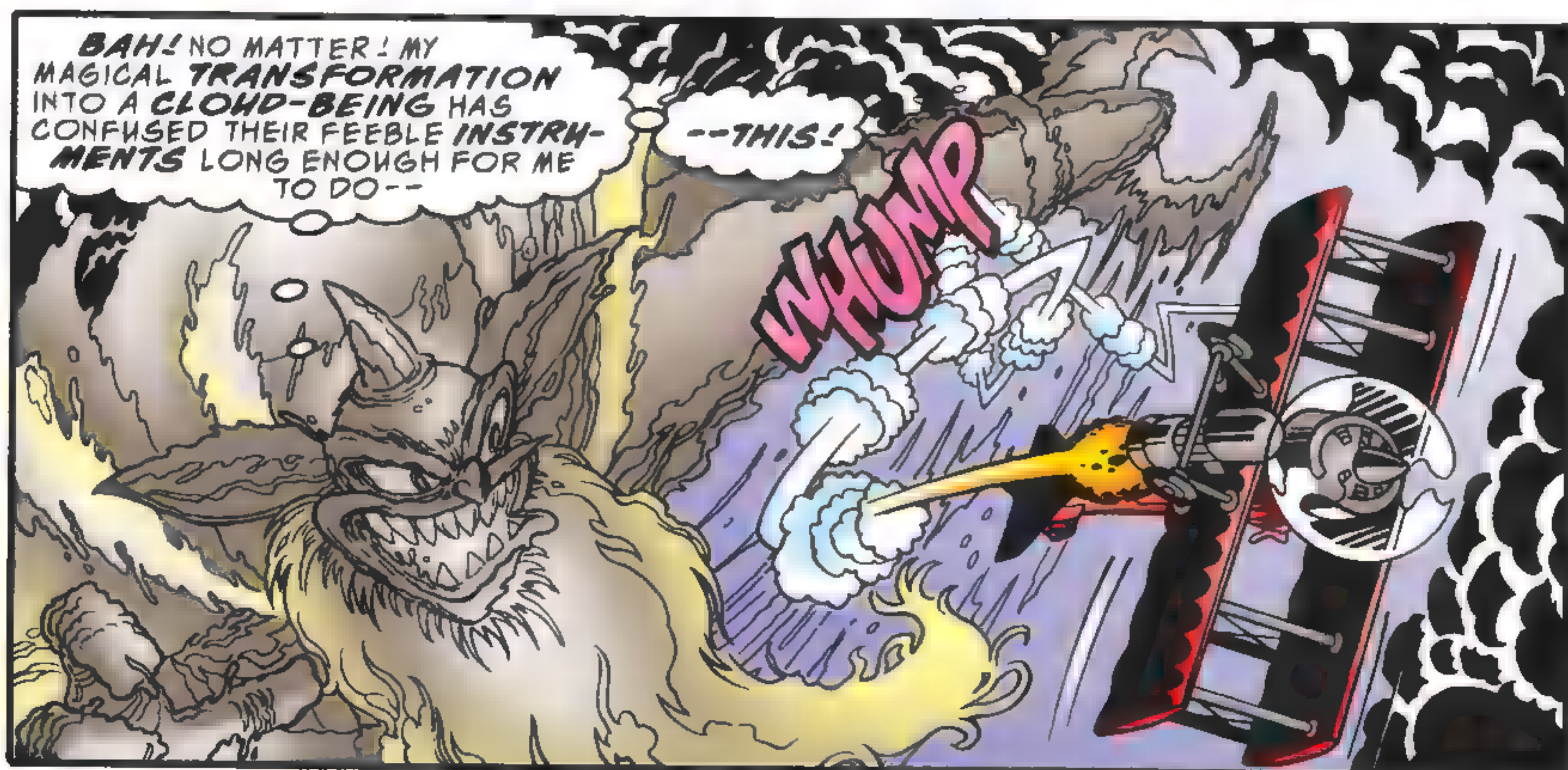
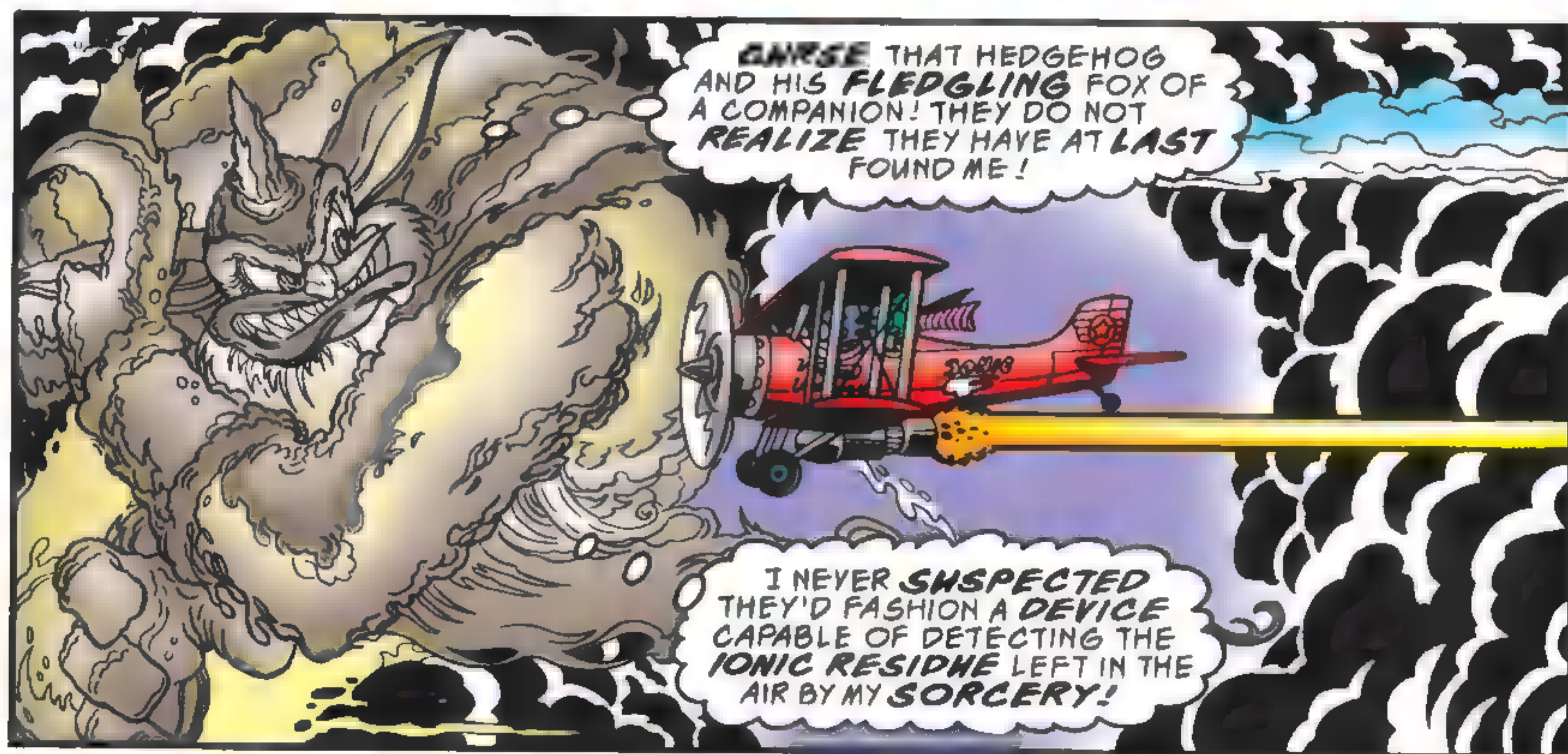
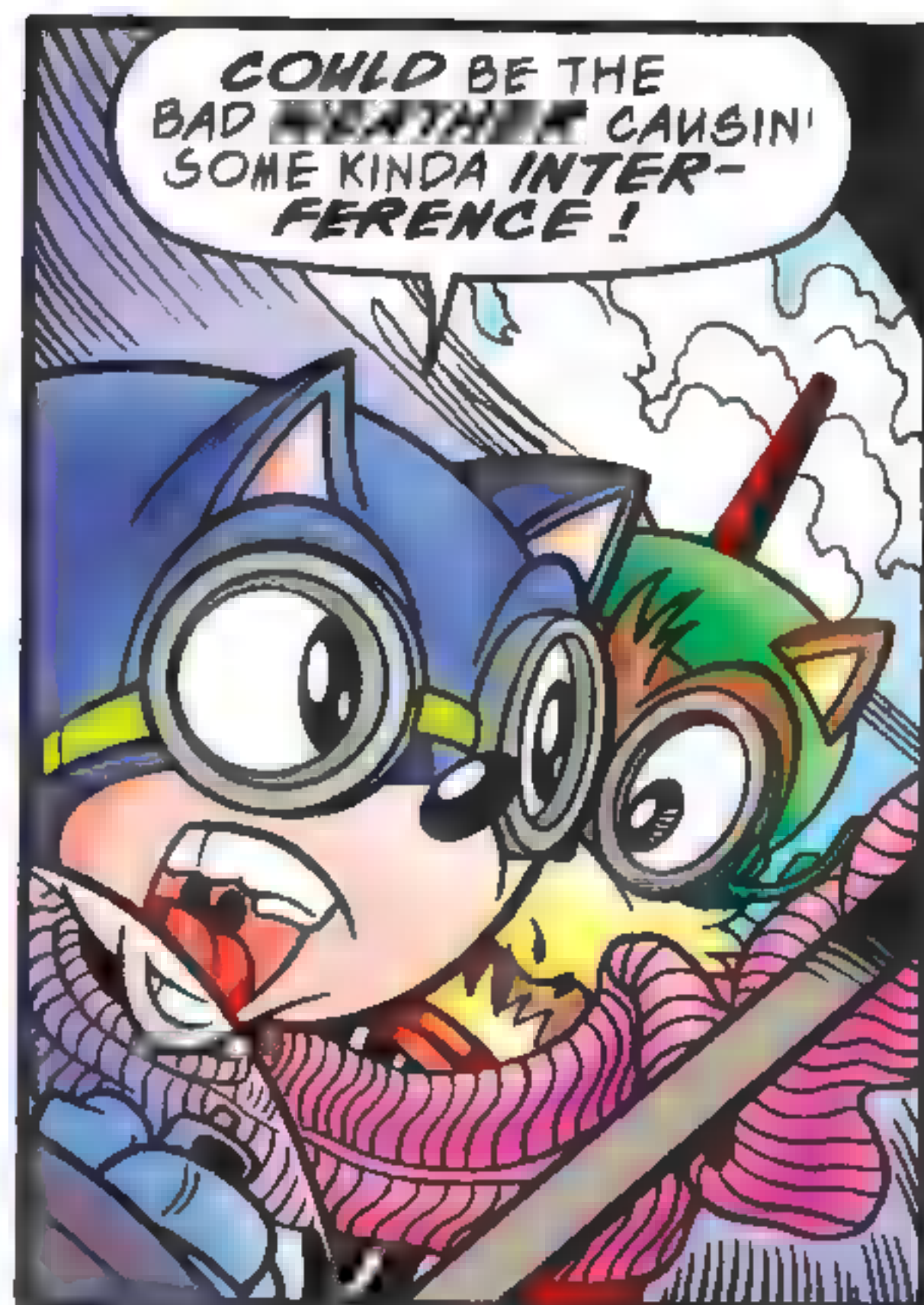
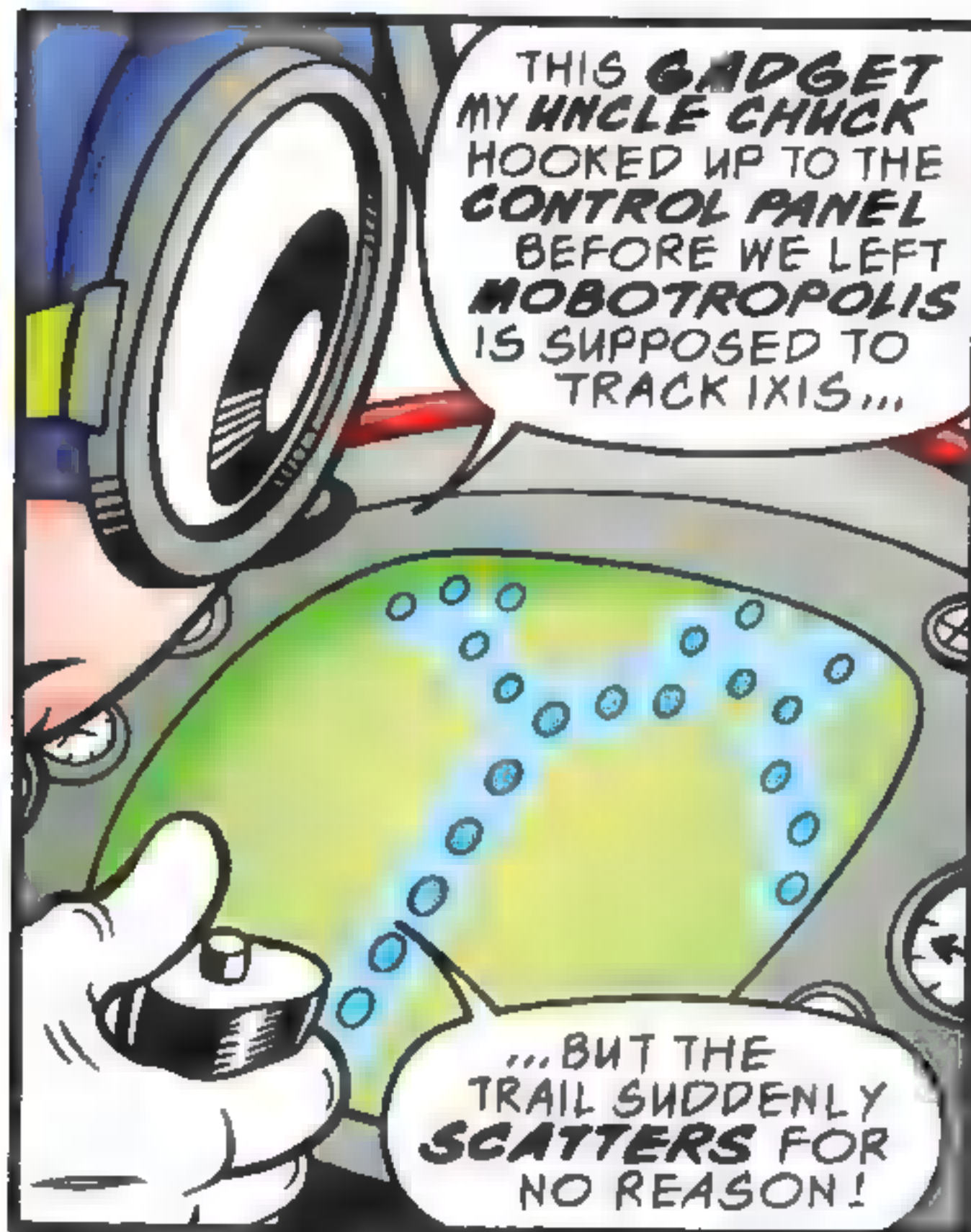
WHY?

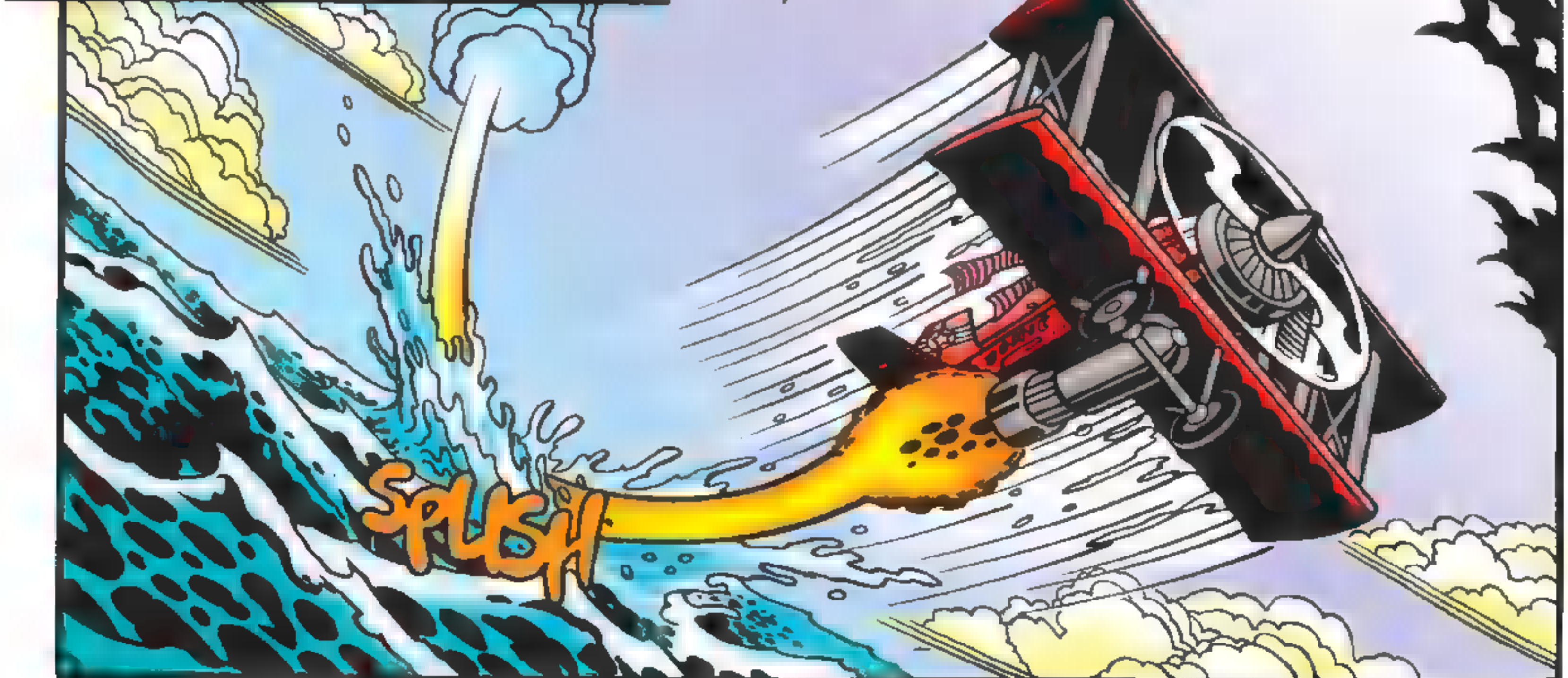
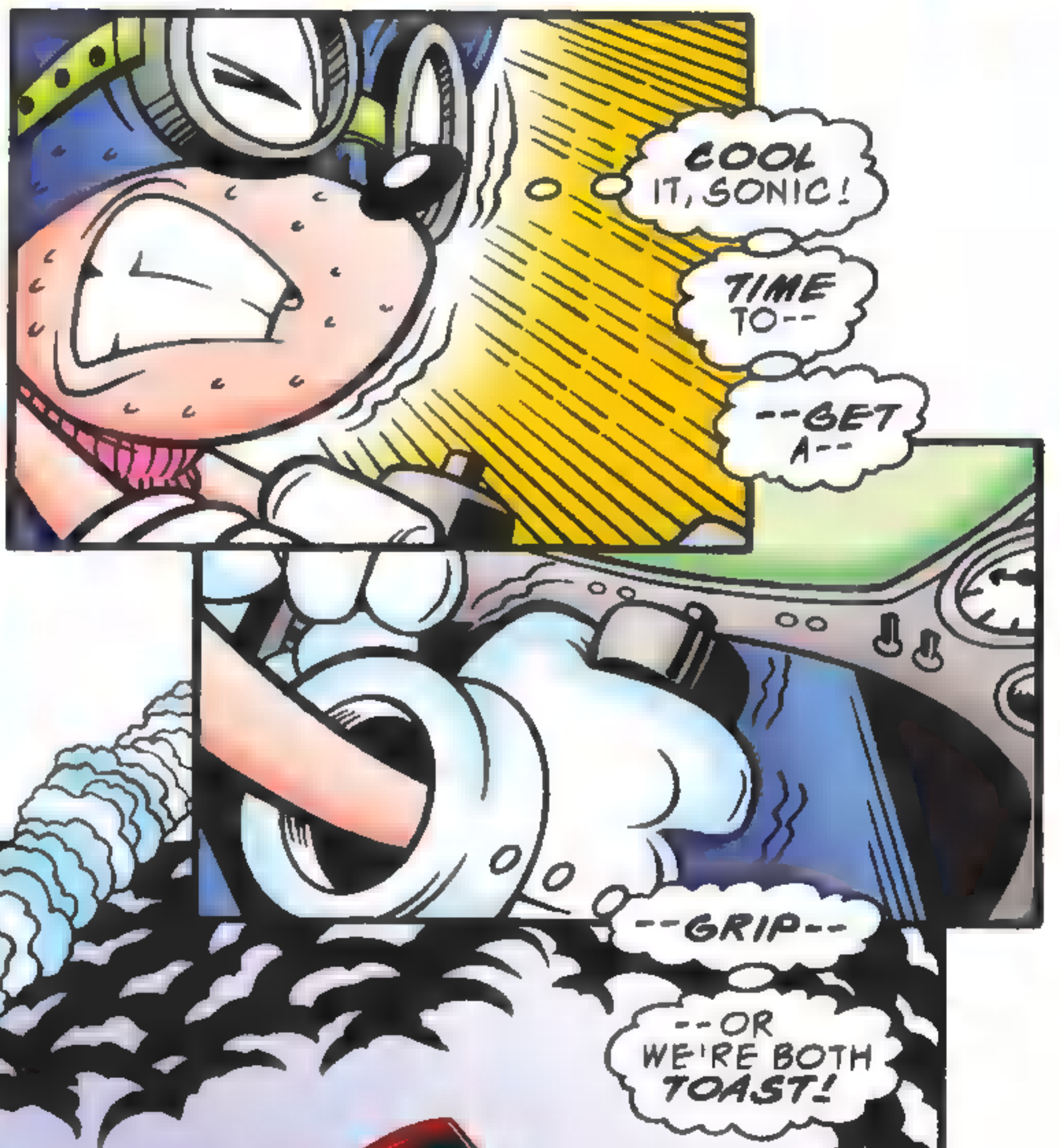
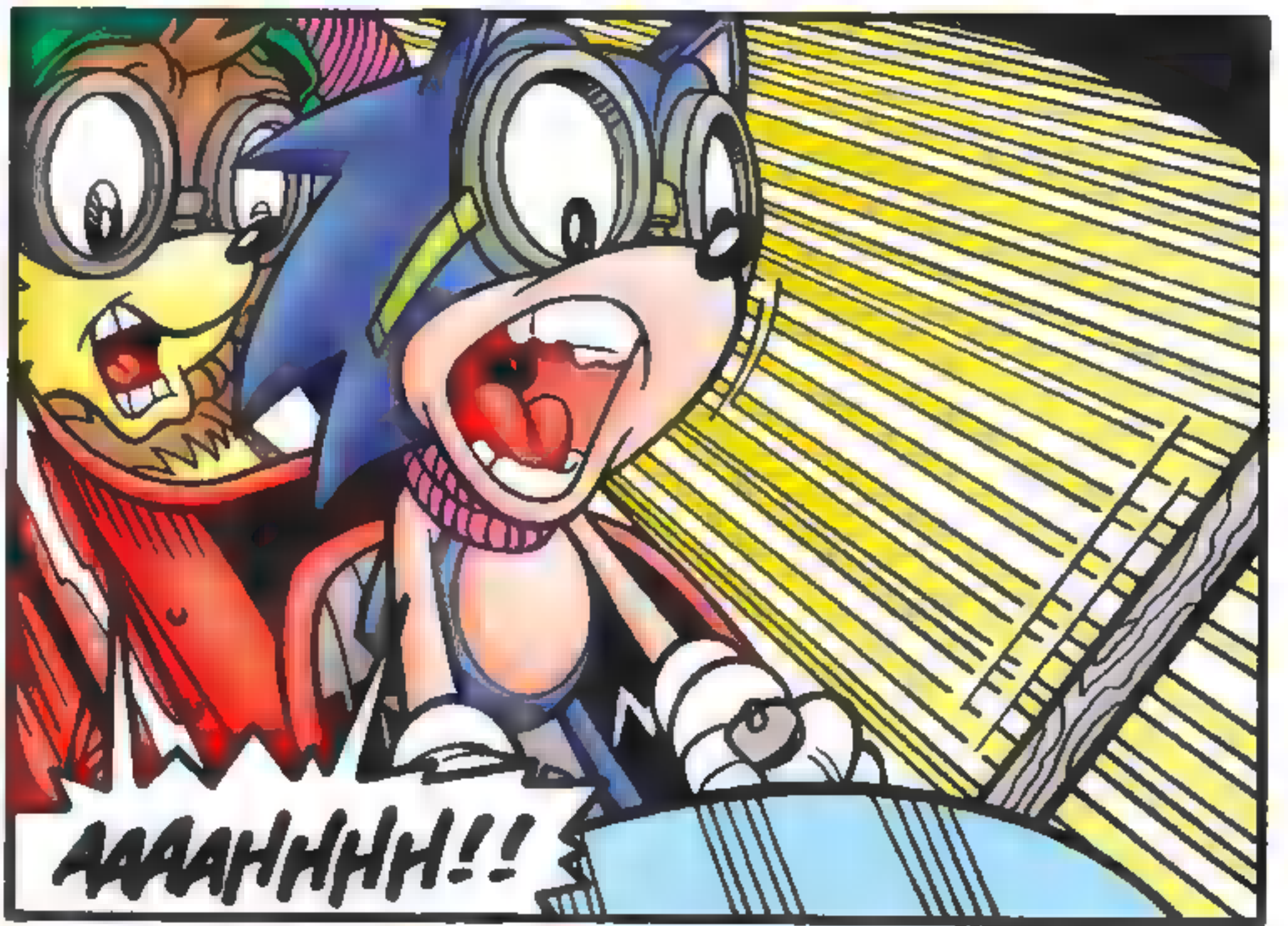
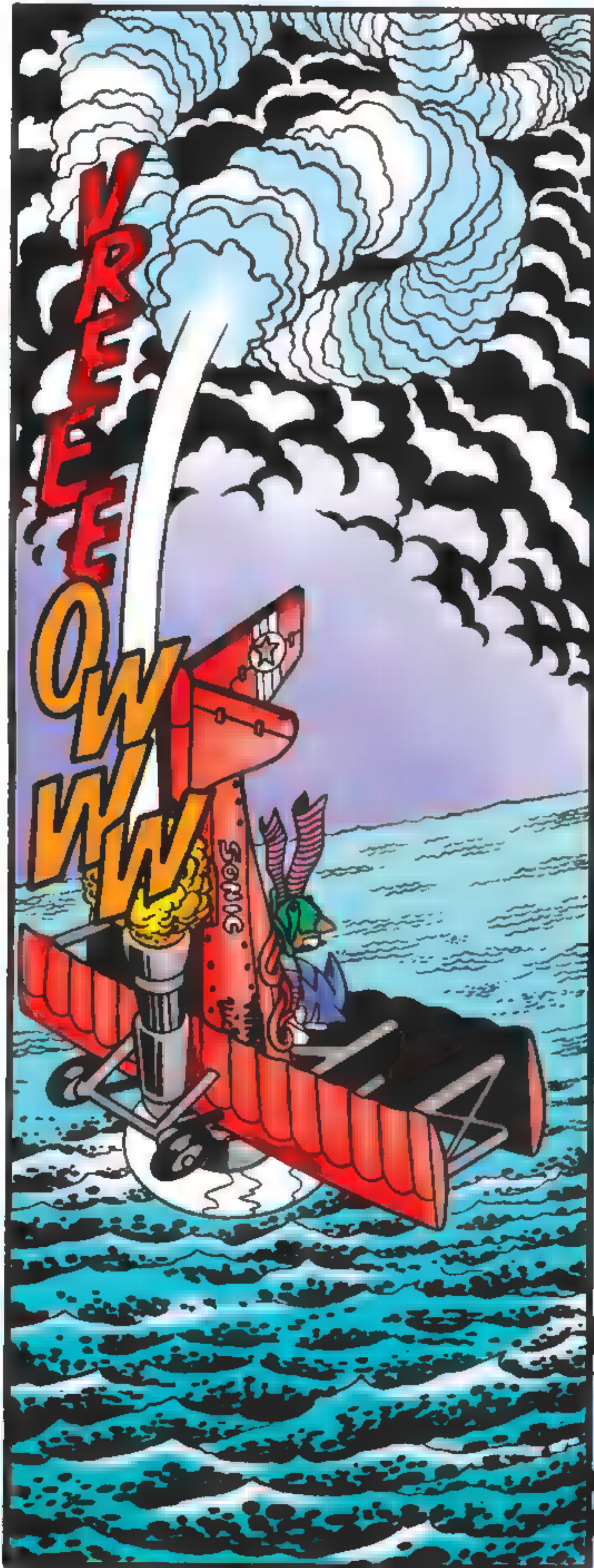
CHECK OUT THOSE
CLOUDS UP AHEAD! FROM
THE NASTY LOOK OF 'EM,
OUR HANDS ARE GONNA
BE FULL JUST FLYIN'
THESE UNFRIENDLY
SKIES!

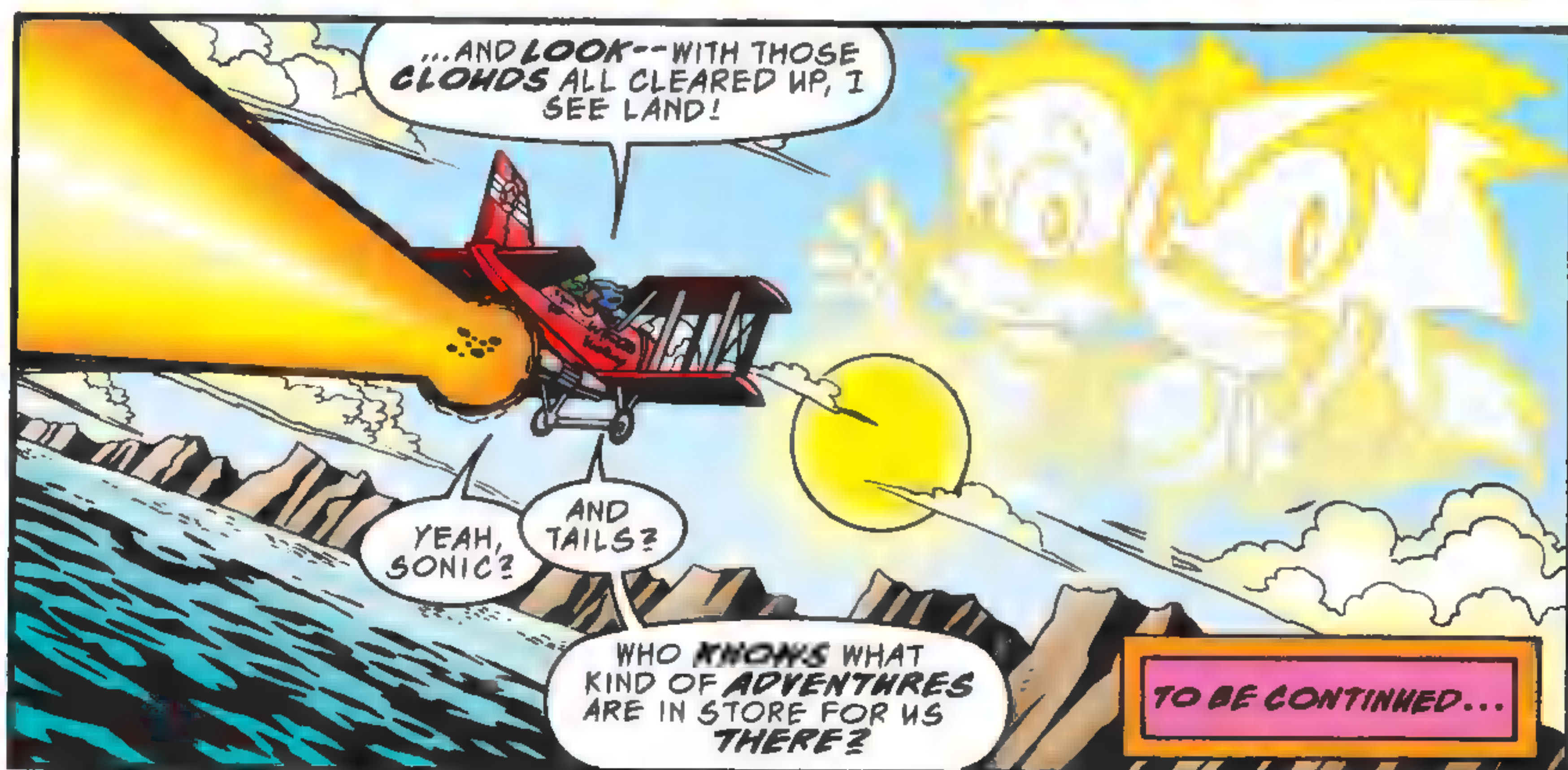
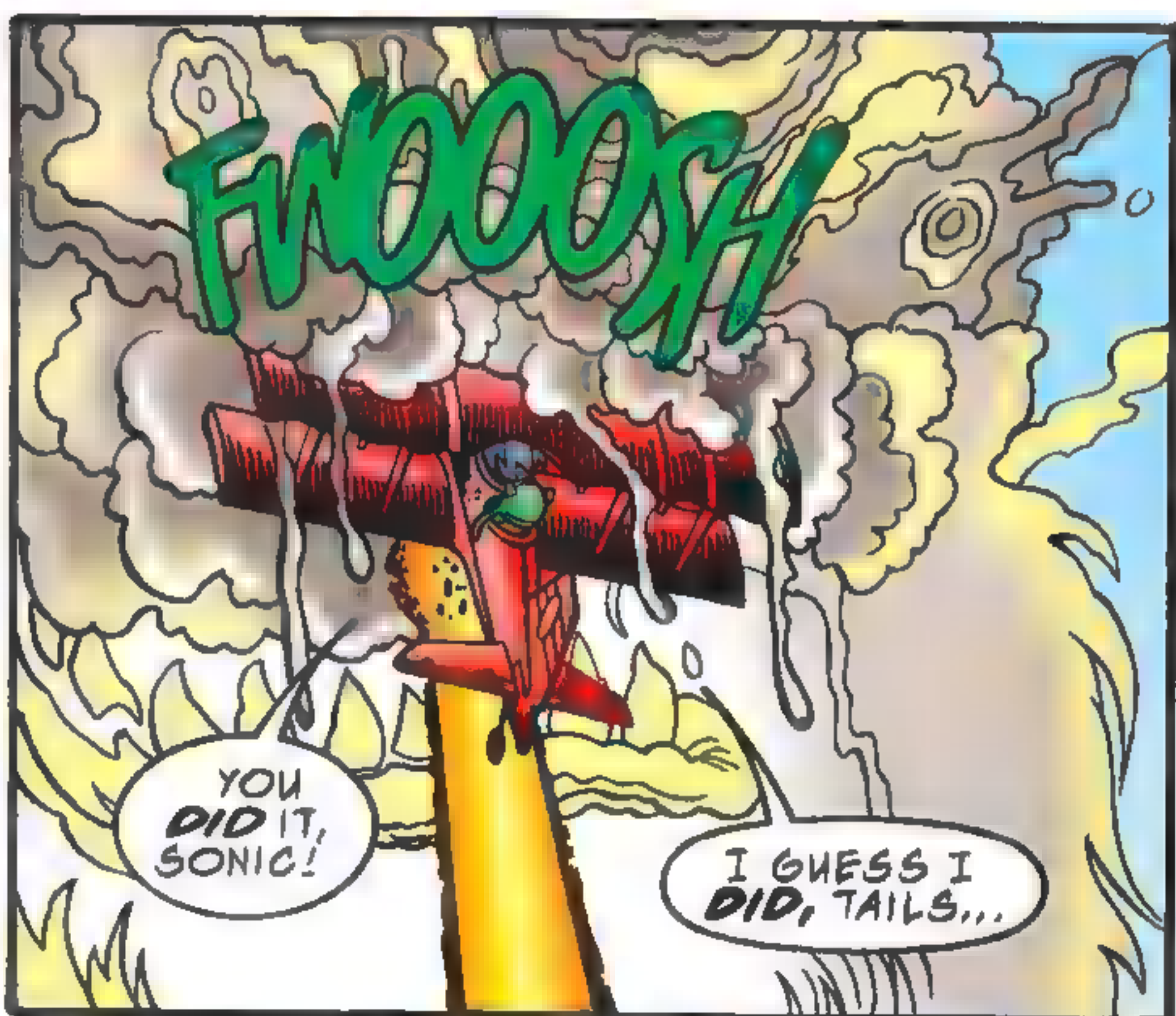
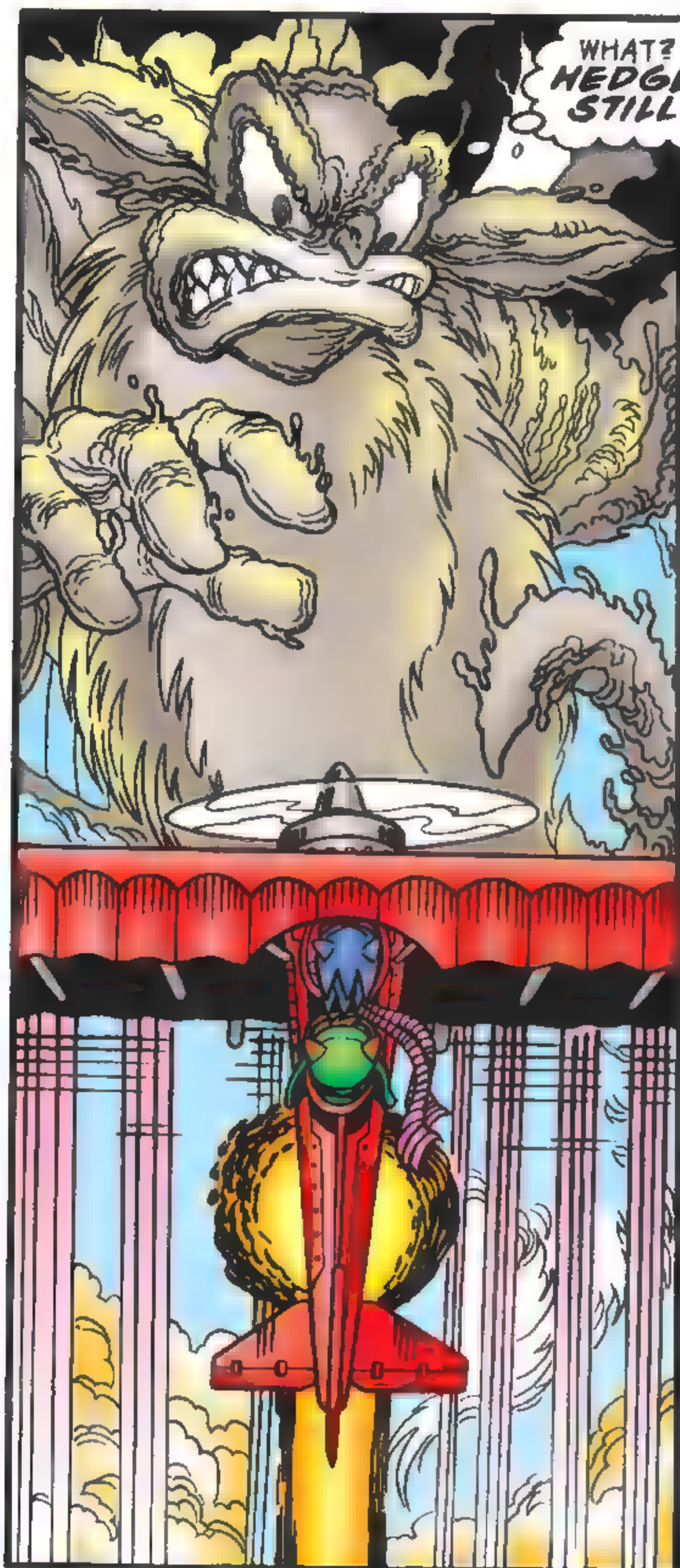
MAKE NO
MISTAKE, LI'L
BUDDY! WE'RE
DEFINITELY IN
FOR--

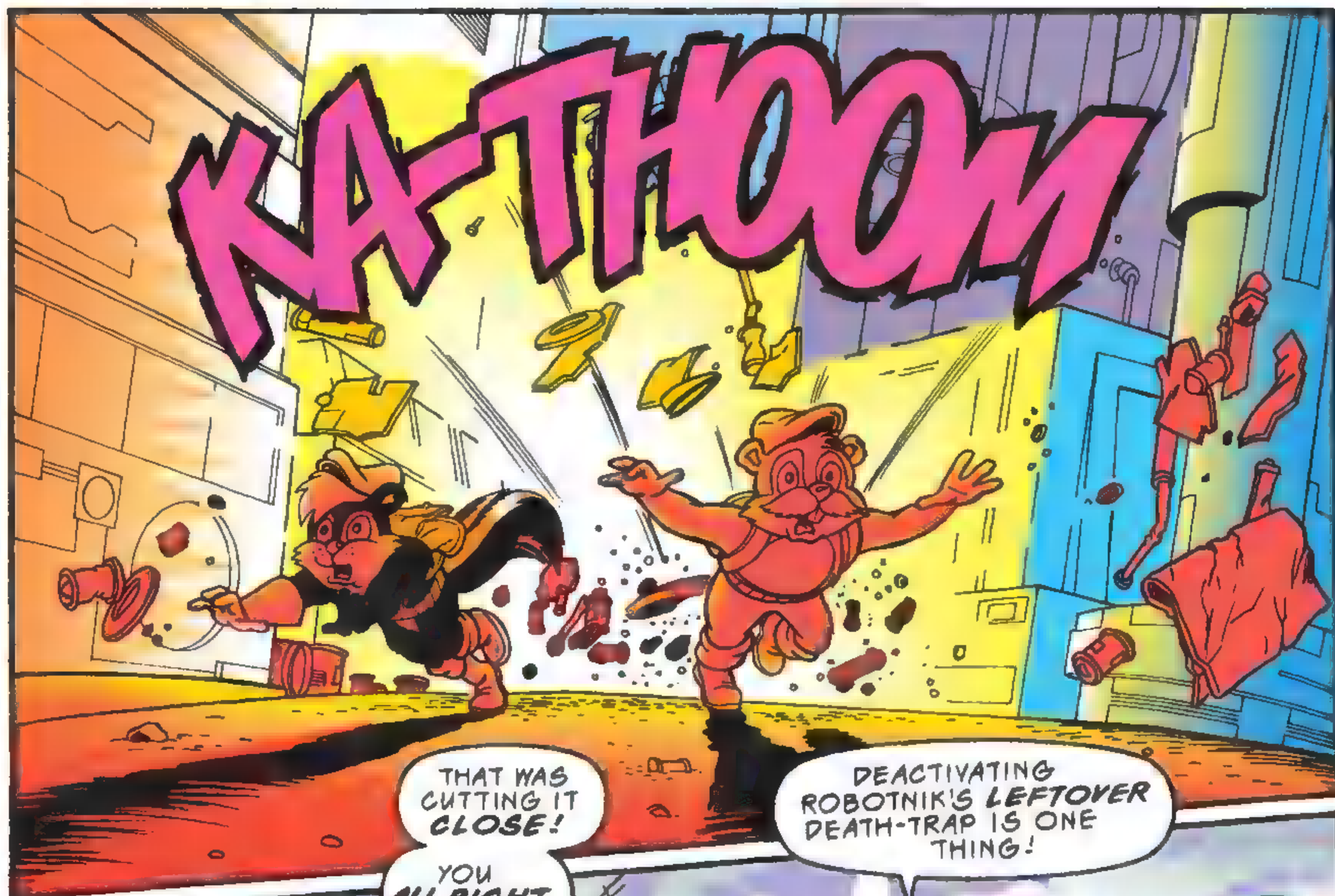
TOTAL TURBULENCE

KARL BOLLERS • Writer
STEVEN BUTLER • Penciler
JIM AMASH • Inker
FRANK GAGLIARDO • Colorist
JEFF POWELL • Letterer
JUSTIN CHAFFIN • Editor









THAT WAS
CUTTING IT
CLOSE!

DEACTIVATING
ROBOTNIK'S LEFTOVER
DEATH-TRAP IS ONE
THING!

YOU
ALL RIGHT,
FLEMING?



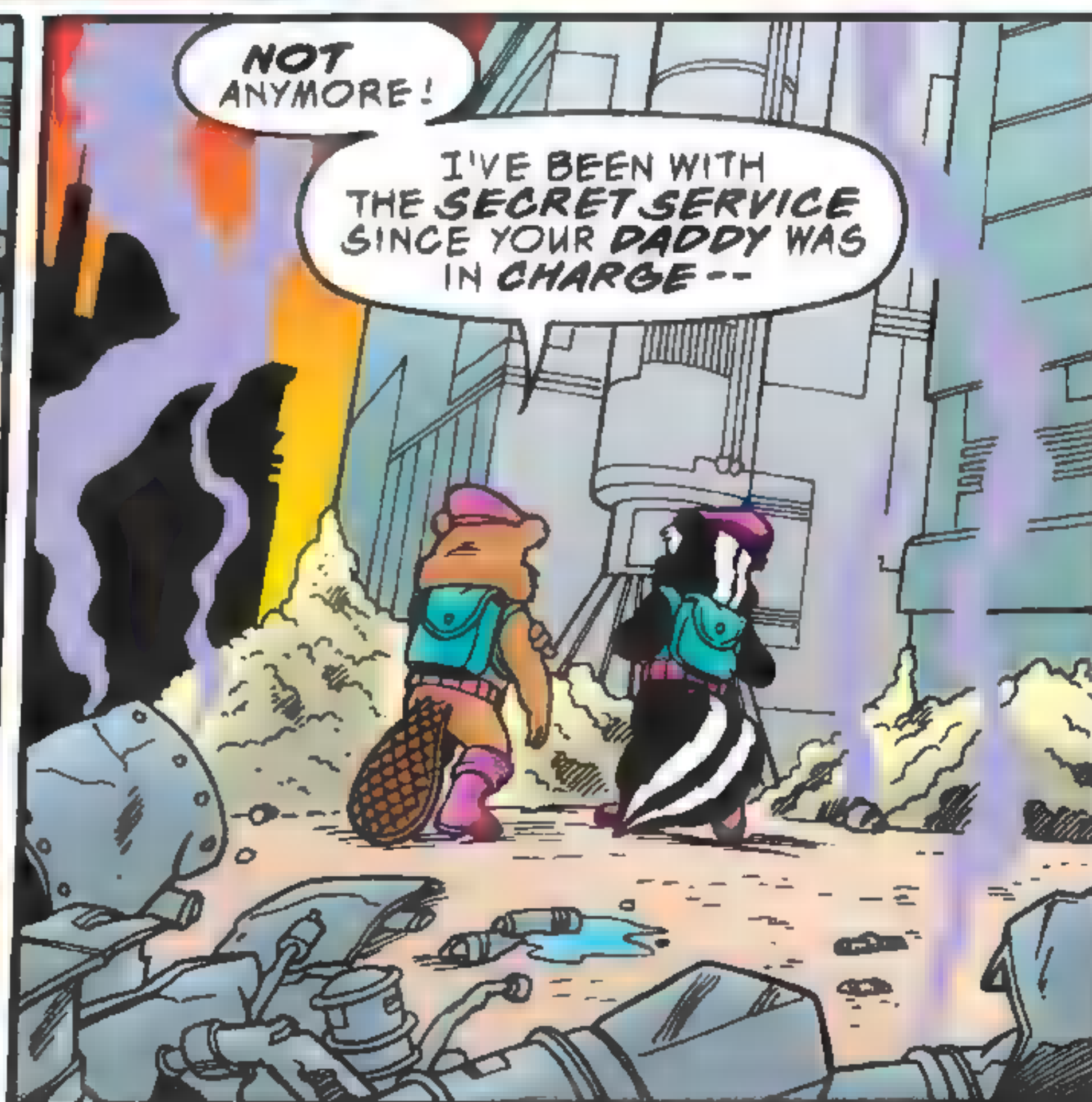
BEING ABLE
TO CARRY OUT
ACTUAL
FIELD ASSIGN-
MENTS IS
ANOTHER!

**NOT
ANYMORE!**

I'VE BEEN WITH
THE **SECRET SERVICE**
SINCE YOUR **DADDY** WAS
IN **CHARGE** --

I'M GETTING
TOO **OLD** FOR THIS,
SON!

YOU STILL HAVE **PLENTY**
ON THE BALL, FLEMING!



Team of the Freedom Fighters

Presents!

GEOFFREY ST. JOHN

**ON HIS MAJESTY'S
SECRET SERVICE**

--AND NOW IT
LOOKS AS THOUGH
MY TIME HAS COME
AS WELL!

WITH THE
RETIREMENT OF
LIEUTENANT
FLEMING FROM
THE **SERVICE**--

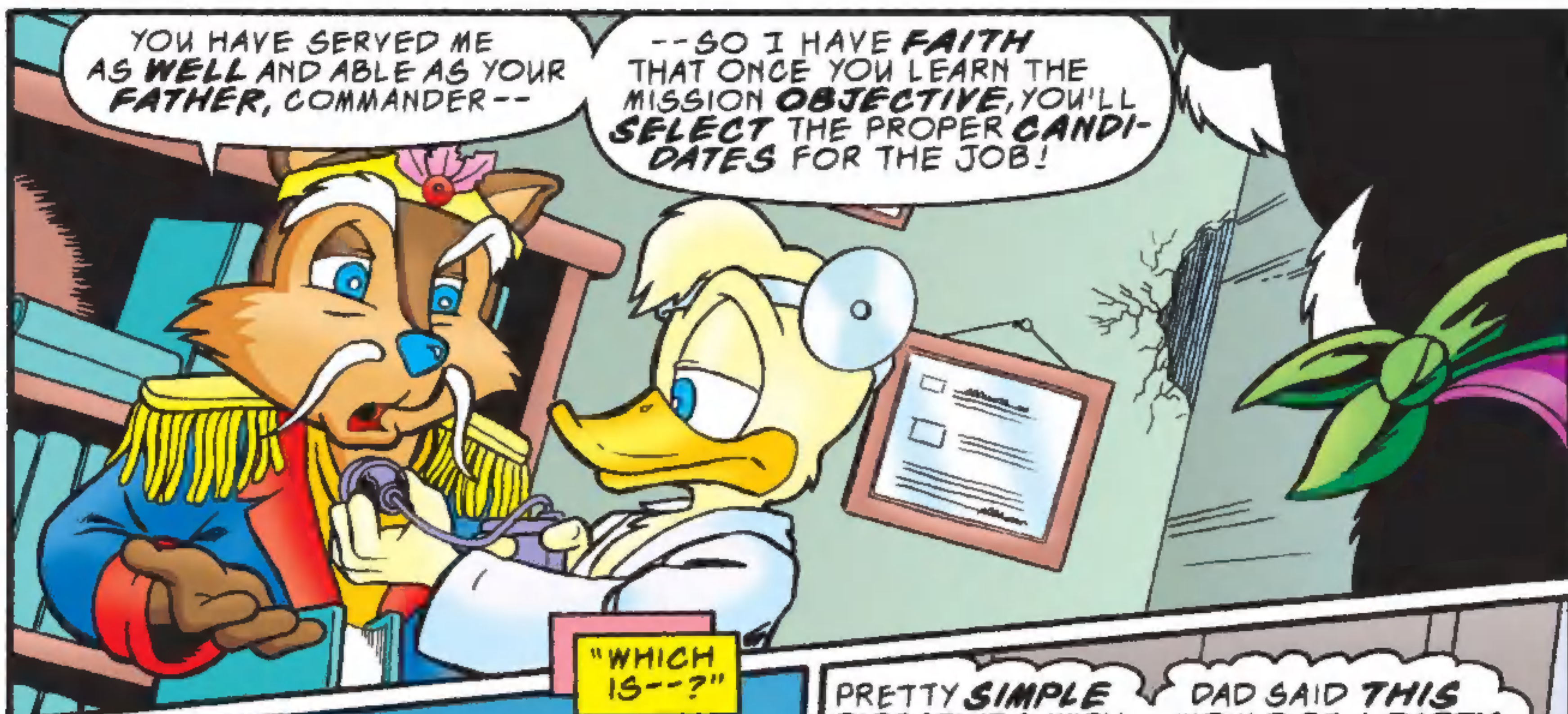
--IT BEHOOVES
YOU TO **RECRUIT**
SOME VERY **SPECIAL**
AGENTS!

THERE ARE NEW
ENEMIES AND **THREATS**
FACING THE REALM, AND
WE NEED TO BE **READY**
FOR THEM!

I'M WELL
AWARE OF
IT, SIRE!

IS THERE
ANYONE IN
PARTICULAR
YOU HAVE IN
MIND?

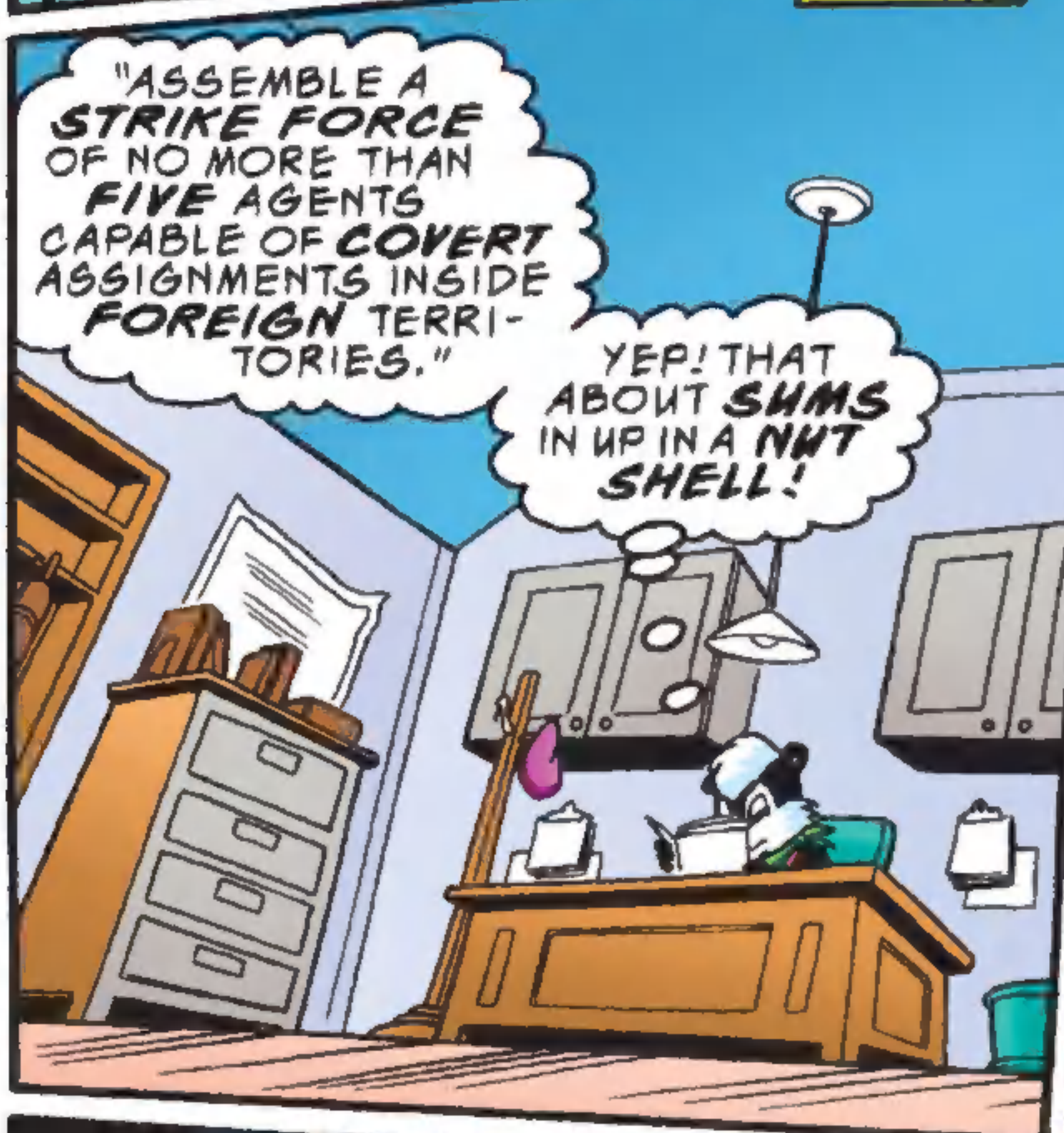
Ken Penders - writes, inks, colors
Art Mawhinney - draws
Jeff Powell - letters
Justin Gabrie - edits



YOU HAVE SERVED ME AS WELL AND ABLE AS YOUR FATHER, COMMANDER--

--SO I HAVE **FAITH** THAT ONCE YOU LEARN THE MISSION **OBJECTIVE**, YOU'LL **SELECT** THE PROPER **CANDIDATES** FOR THE JOB!

"WHICH IS--?"



"ASSEMBLE A **STRIKE FORCE** OF NO MORE THAN **FIVE AGENTS** CAPABLE OF **COVERT** ASSIGNMENTS INSIDE **FOREIGN TERRITORIES**."

YEP! THAT ABOUT **SHMS** IN UP IN A **NWT SHELL**!

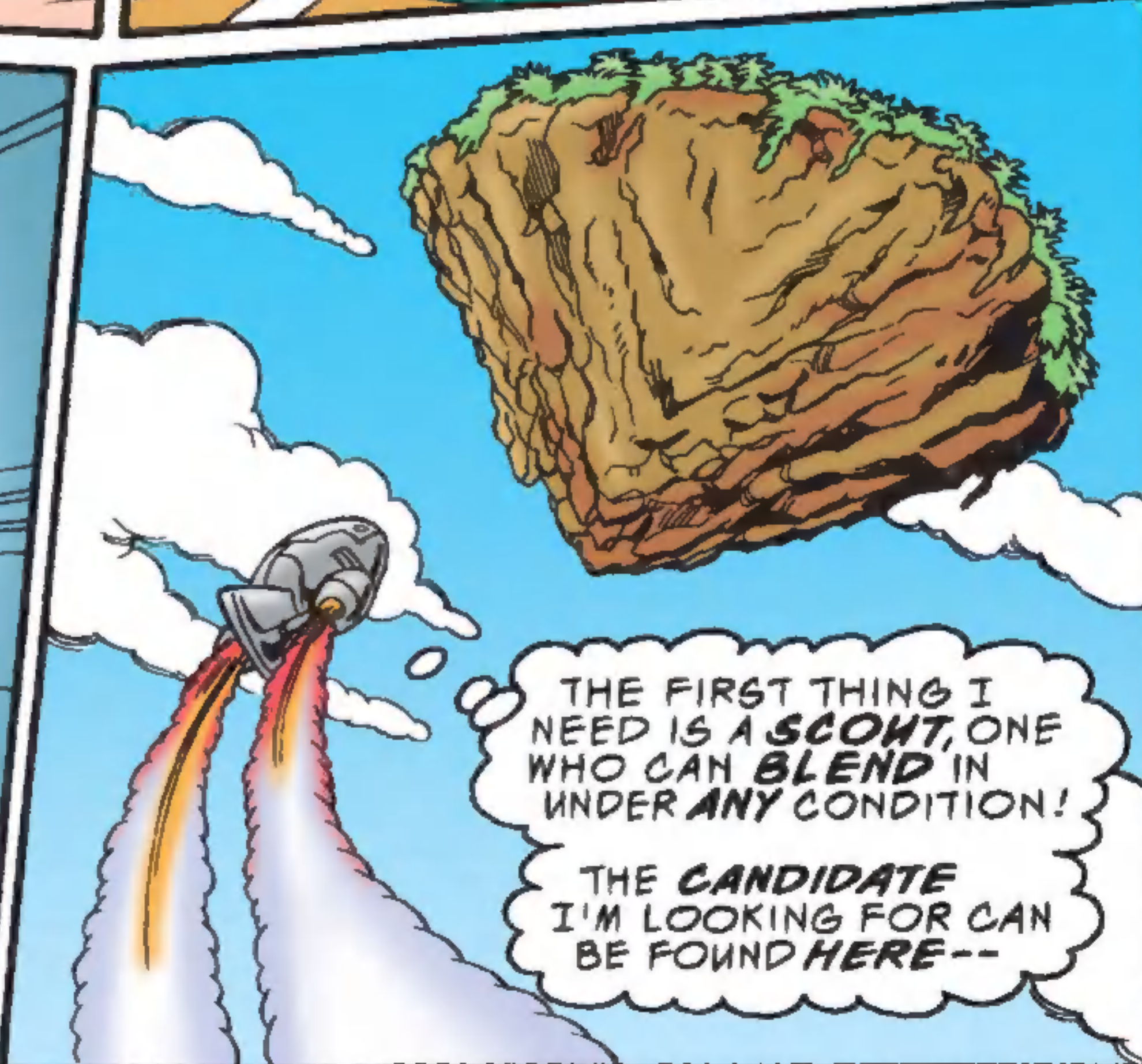


PRETTY **SIMPLE** DIRECTIVES WITH VERY **BROAD** IMPLICATIONS!

DAD SAID **THIS** WOULD BE A **DIRTY** JOB! THE **ONLY** PART HE LEFT **OUT**--

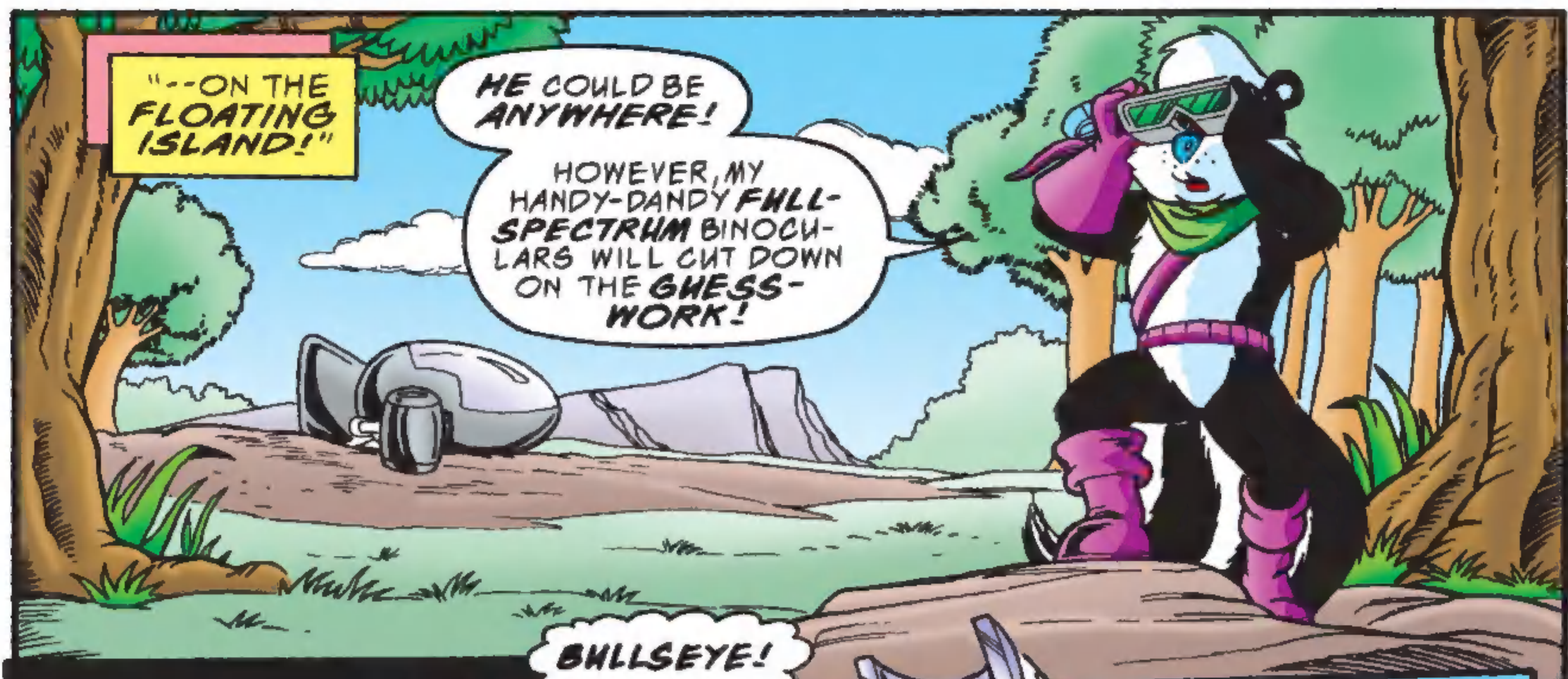


"--IS THAT THEY'RE **ALL DIRTY JOBS**!"



THE FIRST THING I NEED IS A **SCOUT**, ONE WHO CAN **BLEND** IN UNDER **ANY** CONDITION!

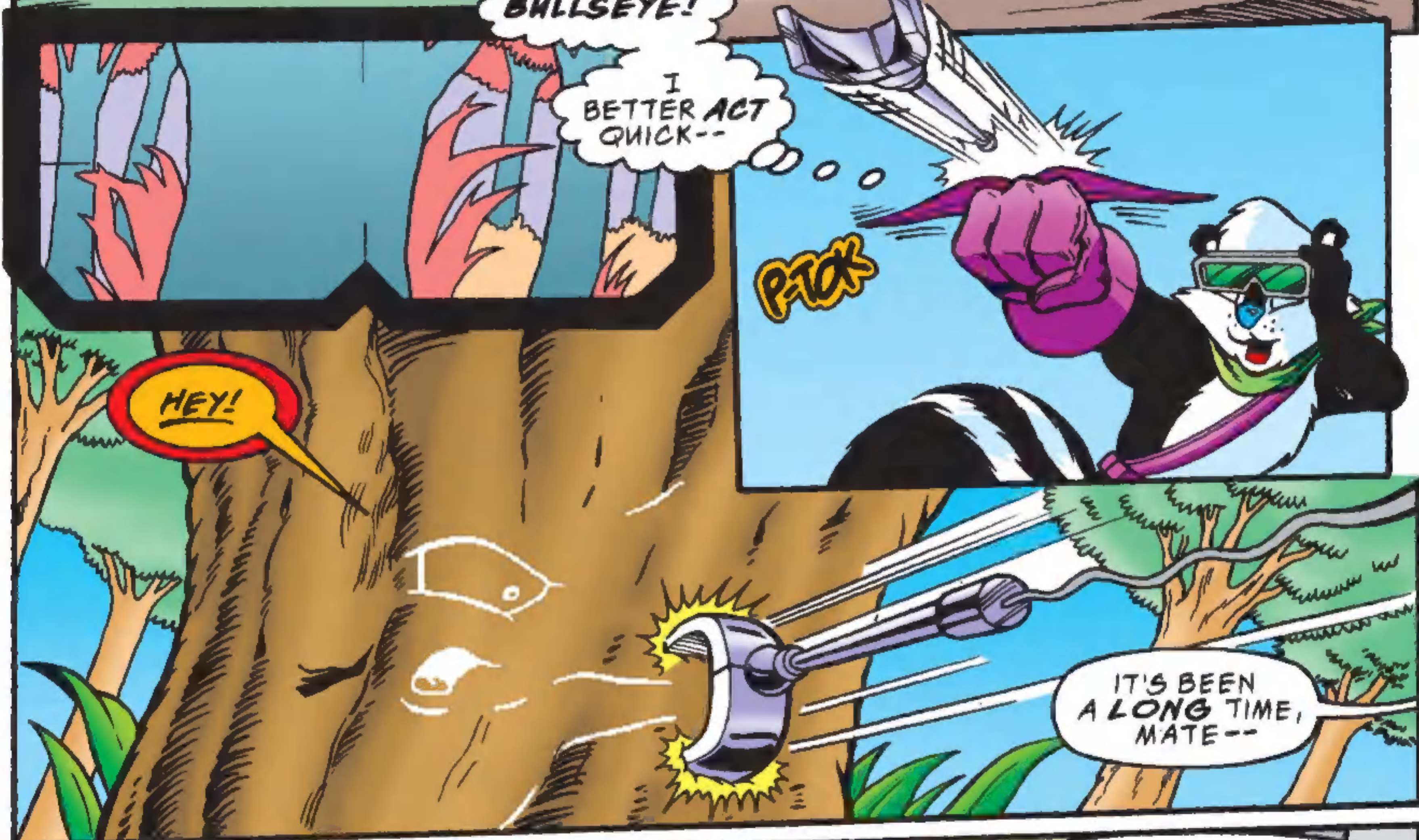
THE **CANDIDATE** I'M LOOKING FOR CAN BE FOUND **HERE**--



"--ON THE
FLOATING
ISLAND!"

HE COULD BE
ANYWHERE!

HOWEVER, MY
HANDY-DANDY **FULL-
SPECTRUM** BINOCH-
LARS WILL CUT DOWN
ON THE **GUESS-
WORK!**



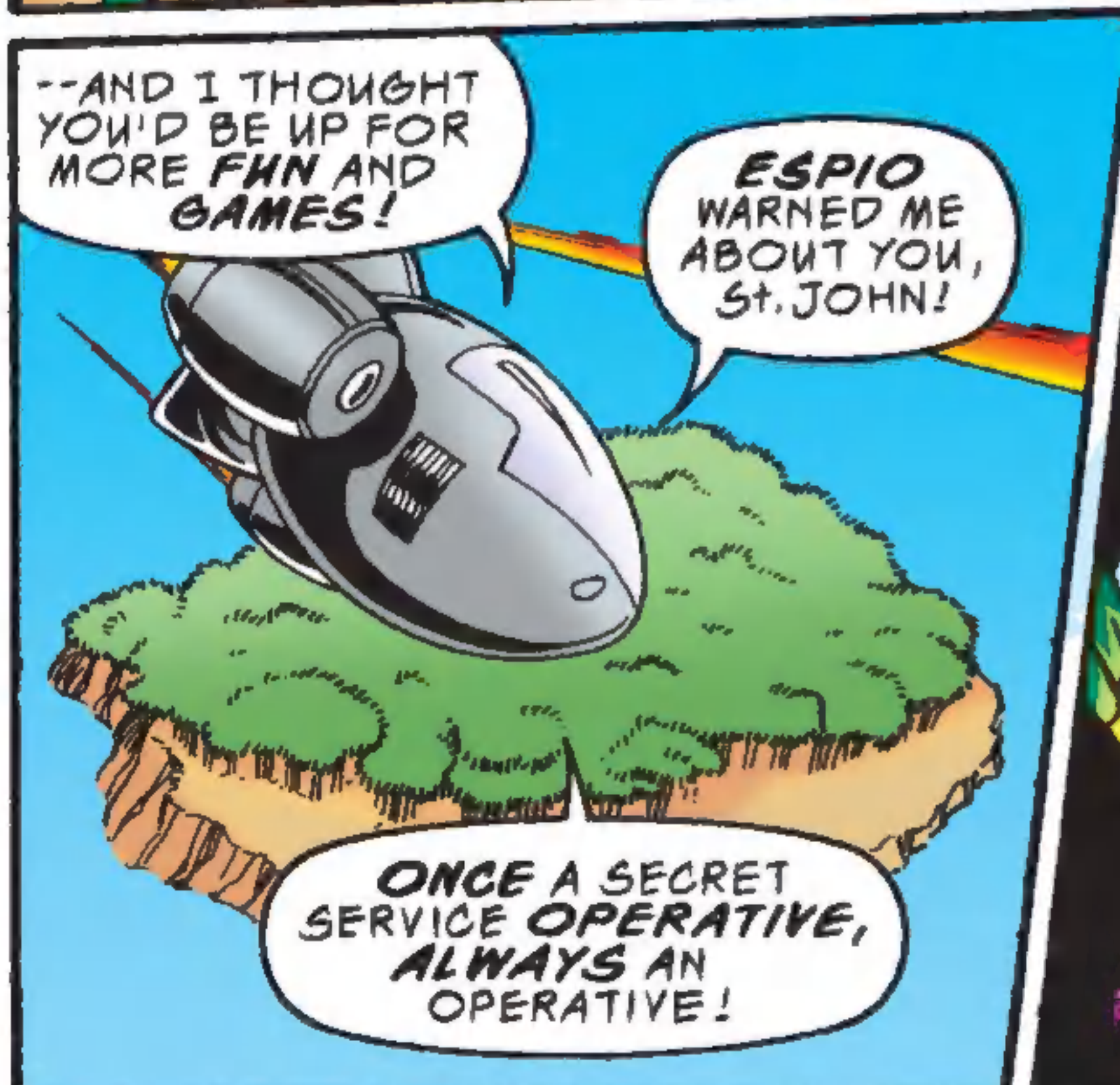
BULLSEYE!

I
BETTER ACT
QUICK--

POCK

HEY!

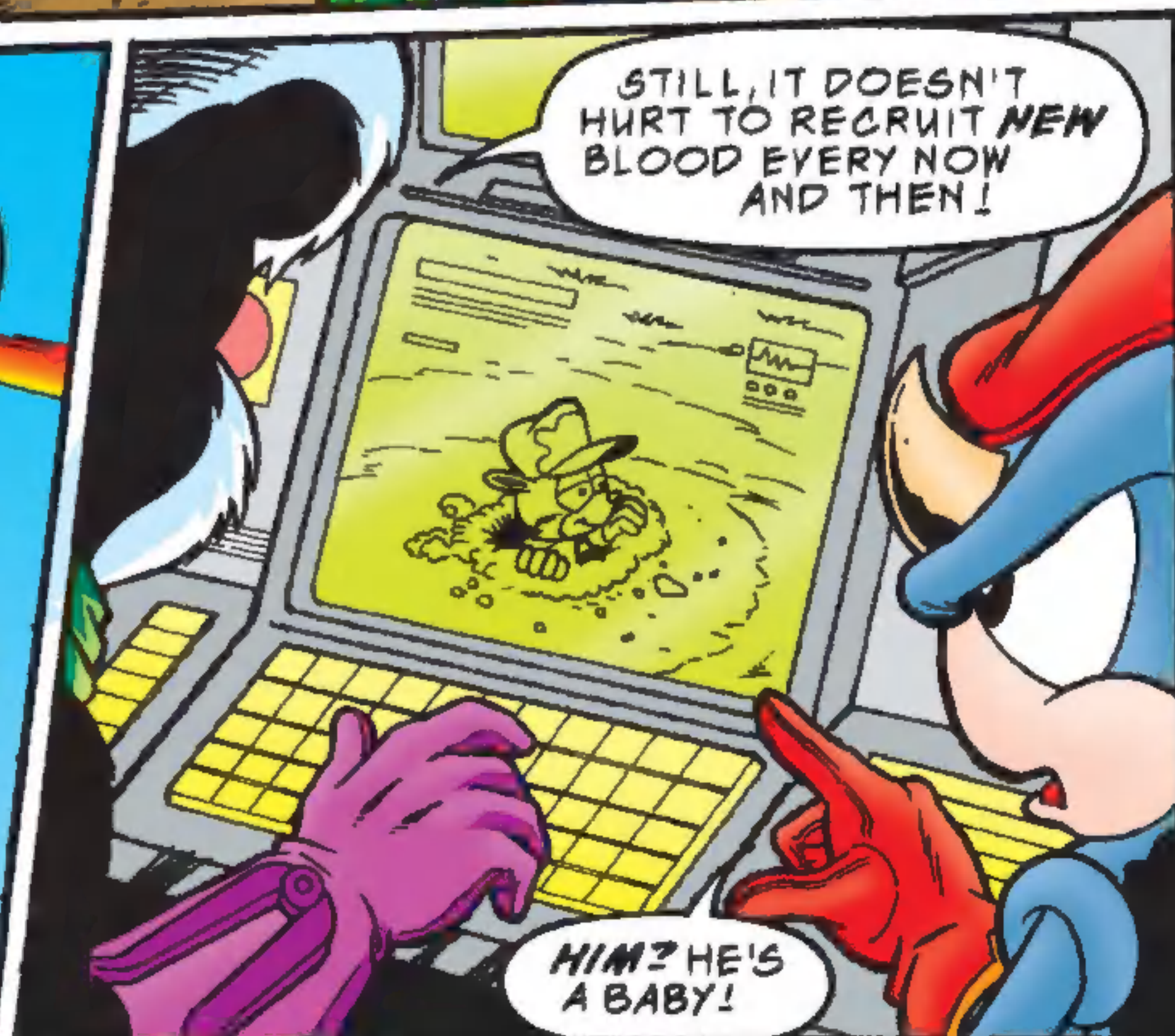
IT'S BEEN
A LONG TIME,
MATE--



--AND I THOUGHT
YOU'D BE UP FOR
MORE **FUN** AND
GAMES!

ESPIO
WARNED ME
ABOUT YOU,
ST. JOHN!

**ONCE A SECRET
SERVICE OPERATIVE,
ALWAYS AN
OPERATIVE!**



STILL, IT DOESN'T
HURT TO RECRUIT **NEW**
BLOOD EVERY NOW
AND THEN!

HIM? HE'S
A BABY!

